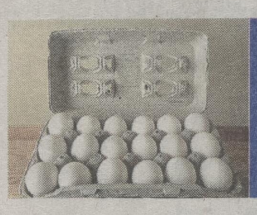

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Winter safety advice from the Wilmington DPW

By HEATHER BURNS
News Correspondent

WILMINGTON — The month of January has already brought a few inches of snow to our area, and it is highly likely that more snowfall will be predicted in future forecasts.

The Wilmington Department of Public Works maintains 115 miles of local roadways, and is taking the proper steps to ensure the safest possible road conditions for the Town of Wilmington for the upcoming 2025 winter season.

This winter the town is fully stocked with salt for any impending ice and snow situation. Winter sand is available for residential use only at the Town Salt Shed located off of Federal Street.

Town snow removal crews along with various contracted crews will make every effort to keep major roadways clear of ice and snow during a snow event, with the clearing of secondary roadways occurring as soon as possible.

Response time is determined by the timing and duration of the storm, as well as storm conditions such as the moisture of the snow, and the possibility of freezing rain and high winds.

Motorists and pedestrians are advised to stay off all roadways until they can be properly treated and cleared.

The winter parking ban in Wilmington is in effect from Dec. 1 through April 1, banning parking on any street between the hours of 1 and 6 a.m.

Failure to comply with the parking ban can result in a $50 ticket from the Wilmington Police Department and/or vehicle removal at the owner's expense.

DPW workers wish to remind the public that there are many ways they can help during a major snow storm event.

Avoid driving during a snowstorm and adhere to the winter parking ban so that DPW crews can safely clear the roadways.

Because of the large volume of neighborhood fire hydrants, it may take DPW crews several days or weeks to clear out fire hydrants, especially during back-to-back snowfalls.

To ensure the safety of your neighborhood and assist local firefighters, the DPW is asking for your help in keeping hydrants and catch basins clear during the winter months.

Remember trash bins and recycling bins should only be put out on scheduled trash pick up days, and bins should not be placed directly in the street.

When clearing your own driveway, the DPW wants to remind the public that every effort is made to minimize the amount of snow left at the end of private driveways. However, it is unavoidable that excess plowed snow blockage will occur to some degree, especially when plows are widening snow gutter lines at the end of a snow event.

The DPW asks for your patience and understanding in this matter, and suggests waiting until snow gutter lines have been plowed before clearing your driveway from snow.

Lastly, keep children and pets at play away from streets and sidewalks during low visibility times such as during heavy snowfall or after dark. Also avoid traveling by foot during a snowstorm or just after a

WINTER | PAGE A7W

Supreme Judicial Court rules on MBTA Communities law

By PAIGE IMPINK
News Correspondent

BOSTON — The Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court ruled last week on the multifamily zoning requirements for MBTA communities, issued in 2022 by the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities.

The requirement is for the 177 designated communities in the Commonwealth to have at least one zoning district of reasonable size in which multifamily housing is permitted as of right and meets other criteria set forth in the statute, including a minimum gross density of 15 units per acre, be located not more than 0.5 miles from a commuter rail station, subway station, ferry terminal or bus station, and have no age restrictions and be suitable for families with children.

The SJC ruling upholds the regulation, challenged by Milton and other communities as unconstitutional and overreach by the Commonwealth. The ruling paves the way for Attorney General Andrea Campbell to enforce the law for communities that do not comply.

For the most part, cities and towns subject to the Act have already submitted approved zoning changes and are in compliance. Cities and towns are classified in one of four categories, and there are different compliance deadlines: host to rapid transit service (deadline of Dec. 31, 2023), host to commuter rail service (deadline of Dec. 31, 2024), adjacent community (deadline of Dec. 31, 2024) and adjacent small town (deadline of Dec. 31, 2025).

However, over 20 communities, including Tewksbury and Wilmington, are now out of compliance, having failed to approve and submit a plan to the state. Tewksbury is classified as an MBTA Adjacent community, and Wilmington is classified as a Commuter Rail community, per Section 3A guidelines of MGL c. 40A.

Part of the SJC's ruling did call out the EOHLC for a process that did not follow guidelines for promulgating compliance requirements. As a result, the department will have to work to develop emergency regulations for those communities that are out of compliance.

According to Alexandra Lowder, Tewksbury's Community/Economic Development Planner, "We are awaiting guidance from the state through the emergency regulations before we formulate a plan on a specific path forward."

Since 2023, town staff and elected officials worked to put forward compliant districts for the community to offer input. Through stakeholder engagement and community outreach, six potential districts were narrowed down to "Main Street A," stretching from Oakdale Plaza to Heath Brook Plaza.

In Wilmington, the proposed zone included space on Main Street from Burlington Avenue to the Hyundai dealership, Burlington Avenue including the Metro development parcel only, Deming Way including a senior housing project, and West Street including an existing affordable housing project.

Opponents in many communities view the law as overreach, voicing fears that allowing more multifamily housing by right will impact neighborhood character and cause infrastructure costs that will not be funded by the state.

Attendees at Tewksbury's Town Meeting in May rejected the proposed zoning option in a 142-565 vote, with arguments on either side of the issue. Also in May, Wilmington Town Meeting voters decided 131 to 110 to send the matter back to the Planning Board and wait for any changes to compliance that might develop before the deadline (and followed up in December with an outright rejection of the overlay district.

The intent of the law is to address the state's housing crisis and create more mobility and utilization of

MBTA | PAGE A7W

Majestic sighting on Silver Lake

A local resident snapped this shot of a Bald Eagle at Silver Lake in Wilmington back in late December.
(Photo courtesy Beverly Herra)

Shawsheen Tech submits Statement of Interest to MSBA

By LIZZY HILL
News Correspondent

WILMINGTON — On Jan. 13, the Select Board received communications and requests about the budget schedule, schools, easements, and television.

The first memo to the board came from Town Manager Eric Slagle. Slagle said they scheduled Finance Committee meetings most Tuesdays and Thursdays from Jan. 28 through March 6, excluding school vacation week. Each meeting would start at 7 p.m. for the town's departments to present to the Finance Committee, following standard practice.

Chair Greg Bendel also established that each meeting's date and time would be posted on the town website and residents were welcome to tune in live.

Town Engineer Paul Alunni wrote a letter to the board with a draft street acceptance policy created with input from DPW Director Jamie Magaldi and Director of Planning and Conservation Valerie Gingrich. Slagle provided that they wanted to share the draft policy with the board in advance to prepare for a hopeful public presentation in February.

Frank West asked if this policy would be available to the public. Bendel explained that the meeting packet is sent to the board members on Friday nights ahead of their Monday meetings, and the communications are publicly posted on the town's website.

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Call: 978-658-2346
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Wilmington Library News:

Playful Pathways: Brunch Bunch on Saturday, Jan. 25

The library will be closed on Monday, Jan. 20 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Adult Programs

Drop-in Tech Help
Tuesday, Jan. 21, 2 p.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 22, 2 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 25, 2 p.m.
Have a tech question that's been bugging you? Stop by Drop-in Tech Help.

Youth Programs

Preschool Storytime
Tuesday, Jan. 21, 10 a.m.
Join us at our Preschool Storytime! This program includes books, rhymes, music and movement. Ages 3-6

DnD 101 for Teens
Tuesday, Jan. 21, 6 p.m.
Starting in January, new players who wish to join our library campaign (or who just want to learn about the world's most popular roleplaying game) should attend our new 101 sessions, held monthly. Grades 6-12

Time for Twos
Wednesday, Jan. 22, 10 a.m.
Join us at our Time for Twos! This program includes books, rhymes, music and movement. Age 2

Family Craft Night: Paper Tube Snowflakes (Waitlist Only)
Wednesday, Jan. 22, 6 p.m.
Complete a craft together with your family! Fold, cut and glue paper tubes to turn your room into a magical winter wonderland! Ages 3+

Baby Time
Thursday, Jan. 23, 10 a.m.
Join us at our Baby Time! This program includes books, rhymes, music and movement. Ages 0-23 months

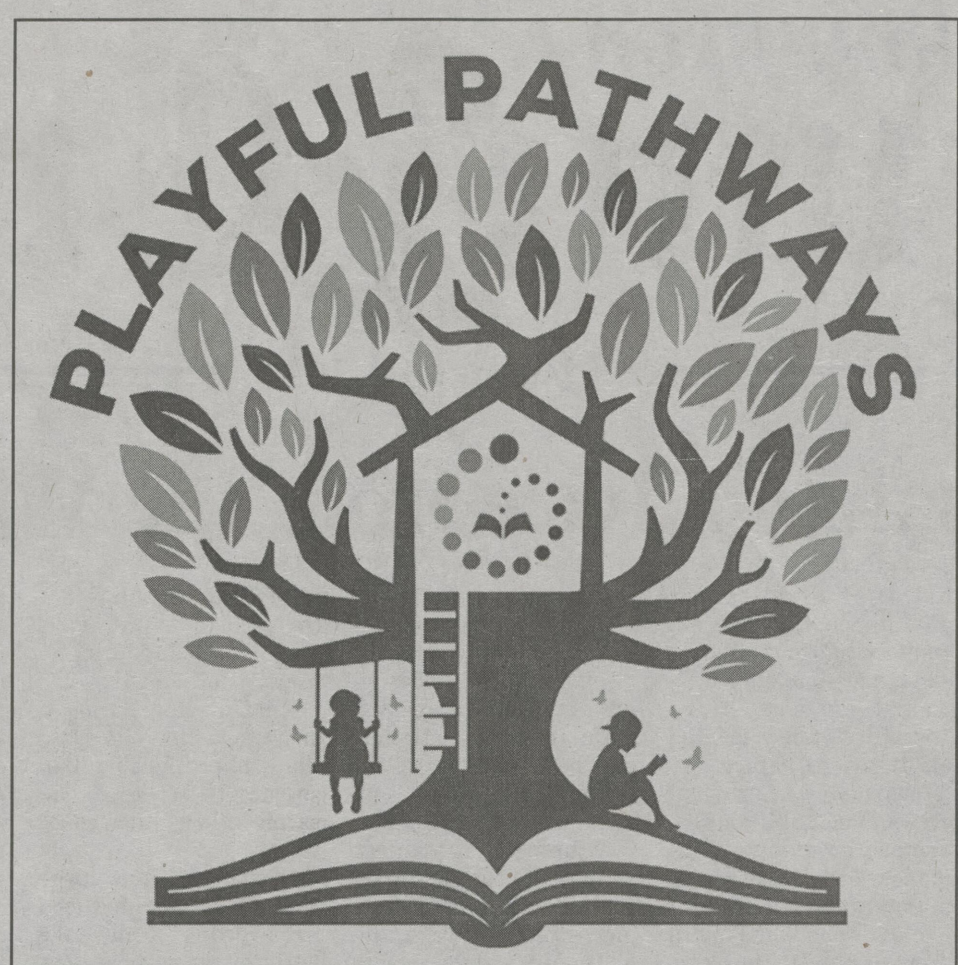
Drop-in Storytime
Friday, Jan. 24, 10 a.m.
Join us at our Drop-In Storytimes! This program includes books, rhymes, music and movement. Ages 2-6

Switch it Up! Video Game Club
Friday, Jan. 24, 3:45 p.m.
Love video games? Come to this once-a-month video game club to play Switch games with friends! Grades 1-5

Playful Pathways: Brunch Bunch
Saturday, Jan. 25, 11 a.m.
During our Food and Nutrition Unit, come join us for our very first Playful Pathways event: Brunch Bunch! Enjoy a mini brunch with your fellow littles, participate in a snack taste test, create a group cookbook, and more! Ages 0-5

Additional Information

New Library Hours



▲ Register now for the library's first Playful Pathways event: Brunch Bunch! Children ages 0-5 can enjoy a mini brunch, participate in a snack taste test, create a group cookbook, and more! Playful Pathways is an initiative by the Wilmington Memorial Library, brought to you with federal funds provided by the Institute of Museum and Library Services and administered by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners.

Wilmington Memorial Library has updated its hours! We are open Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. and Friday/Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Stop by and check out what's new — we can't wait to see you!

Book Store Next Door
The Book Store Next Door will be open only on Saturdays from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. in January and February. Wednesday hours will begin again on March 5.

Shop discount books! Paperbacks for $1 and hardcovers for $2. The Book Store is staffed by volunteers from the Friends of the Library and all proceeds help support library programs.

Museum Passes
The library has discounted passes to your favorite Massachusetts museums, attractions, and state parks. Find the full list by visiting wilmlibrary.org/services/mp.

WML In-Person Programming
Registration is required for most in-person programs. Please check our website on the day of the program to confirm location. Masks are no longer required for vaccinated patrons while visiting the library.

WML Virtual Programming
The library continues to offer a variety of virtual events. Please note that registration is required in order to receive the Zoom link. Go to *wilmlibrary.org* to register or call 978-658-2967.

Display Your Artwork at the Library!
Call for artwork! Did you know the Wilmington Memorial Library allows professional artists to exhibit their work in the library's Stewart Room? Interested artists can apply to exhibit their work by visiting *https://bit.ly/wmlart*.

Shawsheen looking to replace existing building

MSBA FROM PAGE 1

The next memo came from Tony McIntosh of the Shawsheen Tech to inform the town that Shawsheen Tech submitted a statement of interest to the Massachusetts School Building Authority to replace the existing structure, as they had done for the previous three years.

It also said that the MSBA voted to move the Shawsheen Tech into the eligibility phase, which was not a commitment but to see if the school was ready to continue the process.

The president and vice president of the WCTV Board of Directors wrote to the board members inviting one of them to serve on their Board of Directors. Bendel asked any member who was inclined to do so to notify him or the town manager ahead of their next meeting so they could take it up for a vote.

WCTV Board of Director President Bob Hamel also spoke during public comment to say that they are interested in having someone participate in meetings to strengthen the relationship between WCTV and the town which they believed had been lacking. He invited anyone to serve on the Board of Directors or as a liaison to the Board of Directors.

The last memo came from Shonda Green, department secretary of the Massachusetts Department of Telecommunications and Cable, saying the town's cable license with Verizon expires on Dec. 11, 2027. Slagle added that the town had six months to notify Verizon if they wanted to go through the formal ascertainment process for renewal, and if so inclined, the board could also set up a Cable Advisory Committee.

The board voted to accept a drainage easement agreement for 278 Lowell St. with confirmation that this was reviewed internally by town staff who recommended acceptance.

They also voted to authorize the town manager to execute the land damage agreement with the Massachusetts Department of Transportation for Project 608051 relative to Wilmington — Woburn Route 38. Slagle explained that this type of agreement is used by MassDOT to take land for an easement and it was approved by the town engineer. The town would be accepting the sum of $0 for damages.

They then voted in favor of appointing Alex Freund as a member of the Council for the Arts.

The next item they considered was holding a special Town Meeting on Sept. 13 and a special election on Sept. 16 for the Wilmington Elementary School Project.

Slagle detailed that the town was required, in order to move forward with the MSBA, to hold a special Town Meeting and a special election for the debt exclusion for the Wilmington Elementary School Project. He confirmed that he'd met with Town Clerk Beth Lawrenson and Town Moderator Jonathan Eaton to come up with the dates for these, and they chose September to avoid concerns about quorum and representation without delaying the project and increasing its cost.

They were also following the town's general policy to hold special town meetings on Saturdays and elections on Tuesdays.

West asked what time these would occur. Slagle answered to suggest 9 a.m. for the Town Meeting and all day for the election. Bendel added that there would be additional details in the future such as time and location. The board therefore voted in favor of these dates.

Kevin Caira asked in new business about town topics being excluded from the most recent tax bills. Slagle replied that they were considering delivering this virtually but had received feedback that residents liked the physical version, so it would likely return in the next bill.

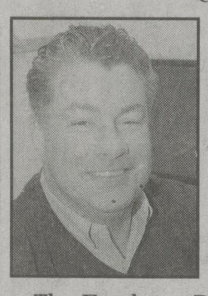
Important dates included Christmas tree pickup through Jan. 17 and an upcoming Wildwood School Building Committee meeting Jan. 14. The Select Board's next meeting is scheduled for Jan. 27.

The Salute to Service went out to US Air Force Veteran Colonel Riley Pyles. Bendel shared that Piles served from March of 1994 to March of 2024 as a senior material leader, acquisition manager, material leader, A3 aircraft maintenance, executive officer, and student officer.

Among his recognition included the air and space training ribbon, the small arms expert marksmanship ribbon, the air and space recognition ribbon, the nuclear deterrence operation service medal, and the joint service commendation medal.

Advertisement

It's Your Money
by Todd Brisbois



Seven suspicious signs an Employee Retention Credit (ERC) claim could be incorrect:

PART I

The Employee Retention Credit (ERC) — sometimes called the Employee Retention Tax Credit or ERTC — is a refundable tax credit for certain eligible businesses and tax-exempt organizations that had employees and were affected during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The requirements are different depending on the time period for which you claim the credit. The ERC is not available to individuals.

Too many quarters being claimed: Some promoters urged employers to claim the ERC for all quarters that the credit was available. Qualifying for all quarters is uncommon. Employers should carefully review their eligibility for each quarter.

Government orders that don't qualify: Some promoters told employers they can claim the ERC if any government order was in place in their area, even if their operations weren't affected or if they chose to suspend their business operations voluntarily. This is false. Some promoters also suggested that an employer qualifies based on communications from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. This is generally not true. Employers should review the frequently asked questions about ERC — Qualifying Government Orders for more information and helpful examples for these topics.

Too many employees and wrong calculations: Employers should be cautious about claiming the ERC for all wages paid to every employee on their payroll. Employers need to meet certain rules for wages to be considered qualified wages, depending on the tax period. Employers should review all calculations to avoid overclaiming the credit. They should not use the same credit amount across multiple tax periods for each employee. For details on credit amounts, see the ERC 2020 vs 2021 Comparison Chart.

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Reading Coop hires Houle as Chief Financial Officer

READING — Reading Cooperative Bank is pleased to announce the hiring of Carol Houle as its new EVP, Chief Financial Officer (CFO). The move comes after longtime CFO Anthony Patti steps into the new role of Executive Vice President, Head of Special Projects.

"Carol had been Reading's audit partner and industry friend for many years," remarked Reading Cooperative Bank CEO Julieann Thurlow. "Her understanding and respect for the value and strength of the mutual cooperative bank charter and her strong knowledge of bank accounting will serve us well into the future. We also appreciate Anthony Patti's willingness to help with the transition of the CFO role and continue on as EVP of Special Projects as he wraps up his highly successful career here at Reading."

Houle comes to RCB with over 30 years of experience in banking. She started her career in auditing, working for a firm, Shatswell MacLeod, that specialized in banking. During her time at the firm, she was elevated to firm partner. In 2013, she joined BankProv as their Chief Financial Officer. During her tenure at the bank, she assisted in a successful growth strategy that tripled the size of the bank in 10 years.

▲ CAROL HOULE (Courtesy photo)

Houle also serves on the board of Franklin Pierce University in Rindge, New Hampshire and Granite Edvance in Concord, New Hampshire.

Houle will focus on positioning the bank for profitable growth to support the needs of the community as RCB approaches $1 billion in total assets with the integration of a neighboring mutual bank into the bank's operations.

"I am honored to work with a mutual institution that has such a forward thinking and strategic leadership team," Houle said. "I look forward to bringing my expertise to the bank to ensure a smooth transition to another asset class in banking."

Houle lives in Salem, New Hampshire and has resided there for over 30 years. She graduated with a Bachelor of Science (BS) in Accounting from Franklin Pierce University and is currently a Certified Public Accountant (CPA).

About Reading Cooperative Bank:
Reading Cooperative Bank is a depositor owned co-operative founded in 1886. This community-centric North Shore financial service provider has branches in Andover, Burlington, Lawrence, Lynn, Nahant, North Reading, Reading, and Wilmington.

They also operate teaching branches at Northeast Metro Tech in Wakefield (open to the public) and at Reading Memorial High School (students and staff only), as well as an online branch at *www.readingcoop.com*

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Lifestyle

What's happening with the price of eggs?

By PAIGE IMPINK
News Correspondent

▲ Egg prices have risen since outbreaks of avian flu have affected American egg laying flocks. (Paige Impink photo)

A national egg shortage has sent egg prices soaring and left grocery shelves bare. Outbreaks of bird flu, or avian influenza (H5N1) have devastated flocks of laying hens and created disruption in the supply chain.

Pressure to keep supplies available is also keeping prices high as retailers hope to stem selling out of the protein-packed staple by raising prices even more and limiting quantities sold.

The highly contagious virus is wreaking havoc on poultry and dairy operations worldwide. The virus, which is rampant in wild birds, is transmitted to commercial and backyard flocks either through direct contact with an infected bird, or through contact with an infected surface such as farm equipment or contaminated soil, feed, or carried on farm clothing such as boots.

Infected flocks must be culled or depopulated. Over 133 million birds to date have been affected, according to the CDC.

And it is not only grocery customers that are feeling the impacts. Commercial food producers, local bakeries and restaurants are all on standby to see how they are going to be affected by the shortage. In some cases eggs are available but the prices are going up; a cost that must either be absorbed by the business or passed on to the consumer.

Since the pandemic, many businesses that rely on eggs have moved to either using hyper local family farms, or using multiple suppliers to hedge their bets on availability.

Consumers are not at risk of contracting bird flu from egg products. Those at risk are workers who are in close contact with infected animals at small and large farms. To date, one person has died from avian influenza in Louisiana after becoming infected. It is noted that the person also had additional underlying medical issues.

That said, there have been infections in both dairy and poultry workers, and the CDC is keeping close tabs on the situation. There is also a caution against consuming raw, unpasteurized milk at this time due to the possibility of the presence of pathogens.

Cats are considered at risk of both dying from the disease and spreading it, as the animals catch small birds, and are sometimes fed raw milk.

Exacerbating the situation is the potential for the reduction in the availability of cage-free eggs. In 2025, eight states — Arizona, California, Colorado, Massachusetts, Michigan, Nevada, Oregon and Washington — put laws in place to ban the production and sale of conventional eggs for animal welfare reasons. National retailers like Trader Joe's and Whole Foods have made similar commitments, according to Nerdwallet.

However, the rise in prices is also due to inflation. Fuel, feed, and labor costs are increasing and impacting the agricultural sector. Demand for eggs has remained high as Americans look to the protein packed ovals for their meals.

Additionally, holiday egg consumption is typically higher, and supplies need to recover from the Christmas/Hanukah overlap this year.

There are some ways the home cook can manage the egg issue, including using substitutes such as applesauce, flax, sour cream or yogurt in baking. Bananas are a good replacement, as is aquafaba, the liquid that canned chick peas release. There are many resources on the internet to find the best egg replacement for specific cooking purposes.

While eggs can last for a month or more in the refrigerator, one has to consider how old the eggs already are by the time they get to the grocery store. It is not recommended to hoard eggs at this time and suppliers and retailers are concerned that this behavior will create even more of an issue for the national supply.

January is National Bath Safety Month

By HEATHER BURNS
News Correspondent

January is National Bath Safety Month, a perfect time to remind yourself of simple precautions to avoid bathroom accidents.

According to the Center for Disease Control (CDC), bathroom injuries result in approximately 235,000 emergency room visits each year.

Of these injuries, approximately 80 percent are due to slips and falls in the bathroom.

There are several easy precautions you can take to lessen the number of accidental falls in your home's bathroom.

Start off with the simple addition of non-slip bathtub mats and non-slip floor mats.

This is a good idea for any household with small children, elderly family members, or for those with balance or strength issues.

Non-slip floor mats can absorb excess dripping water that can be an unsuspected cause of slipping and falling, and non-slip bathtub mats can provide better footing to avoid a treacherous fall in the tub.

Safety handle bars are also a great way to avoid accidental falls.

Place safety bars near the shower entrance and on interior tub walls to aid in standing or moving within the bathtub.

Strategically placed safety handles can aid those who need assistance getting on and off the toilet.

Be sure all safety bars are properly anchored to the wall in order to provide the proper weight bearing strength for safe bathroom movement.

Never use a shower curtain, curtain rod, or glass shower door as means to hold up yourself or balance yourself in the shower. They are typically not meant to be weight bearing and can result in a dangerous fall.

To be extra vigilant, be sure that your existing glass shower door is made of shatterproof glass.

Because most falls in the home occur in the bathroom, AARP recommends the use of a bath chair to allow enabled bathers to sit while showering.

For those vulnerable to falling while stepping over the bathtub wall, a transfer bench is also recommended.

AARP also suggests for seniors that are mobile but may be unsteady on their feet, to consider the use of a mobile bedside commode to relieve nighttime bathroom needs and avoid dangerous falls in the middle of the night.

All of these items can be purchased online or in most pharmacies, and many of these items are available for loan from the Masonic Hospital Equipment Loan Program, open Saturdays 9 am to noon at 500 West Cummings Park in Woburn.

Seniors are not the only ones particularly susceptible to bathroom related injuries.

Young children are also at high risk of having accidental bathroom injuries.

According to the American Academy of Pediatrics, children four years old and under should always be supervised by a caregiver when near water. This includes while taking a bath.

The CDC also notes that of all reported yearly deaths from drowning, infant drowning deaths are most likely to occur in the bathtub.

The simple addition of safety handles and non-slip tub matts can help reduce accidental slips and falls in your bathroom. (Heather Burns photo)

To minimize accidental submersion with small children, limit the water amount in the tub to 2" for children under the age of two.

Always completely finish filling the tub and test water temperature before letting your child in the tub water to avoid accidental scalding.

The use of a thermometer is the most accurate, but if not available, test water temperature with your elbow or foot, rather than your fingertips or hand, to get a more accurate reading on the water temperature.

It is also a good idea to set your home's water heater to deliver water no hotter than 120 degrees fahrenheit in order to lower the risk of scalding.

Avoid bath toys with hard or pointed edges that may be hazardous if your child accidentally falls or sits on them.

As 2025 unfolds, don't let yourself or your family members become another accidental bathroom injury statistic.

With a little awareness and the addition of some simple safety precautions, this year your home's bathroom can change from an accidental fall zone to a relaxing in-home oasis.

For more information on the Masonic Hospital Equipment Loan Program, call 781-332-1052.

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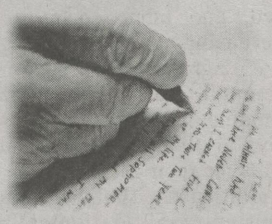
OPINION



Letter to the editor

Wellman announces resignation from Select Board

Dear Tewksbury Select Board colleagues, staff, and fellow citizens,

Given increased professional responsibilities and personal obligations, I find that I am unable to dedicate the time I believe is required to best fulfill my duties as a Tewksbury Select Board member. Additionally, my family is in the process of purchasing a home outside Tewksbury, so it is with regret that I must step down from my seat, effective Jan. 17.

I will not seek reelection in April. While I am sad to leave Tewksbury, we will be back often to visit friends and patronize our many fantastic restaurants and businesses.

Serving the citizens of Tewksbury on the Select Board, School Committee, as Moderator, and in many other volunteer roles has been an honor, and a deeply rewarding experience. I have greatly valued the opportunity to work alongside so many dedicated colleagues, staff members, and residents.

Looking back on my 16 years in public service, highlights include serving on the School Committee during the Great Recession; becoming the first female Town Moderator; supporting the creation of and chairing the Tewksbury Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Advisory Committee; partnering with Lowell 5 to create a Rental and Mortgage Assistance Plan during the pandemic; serving with the regional planning agency NMCOG; construction of Tewksbury Memorial High School, the Center Elementary School, the Center Fire Station, the Regional Emergency Communications Center, and the new Public Works and School Facilities building; and co-founding Tewksbury Rail Trail, which helped energize efforts around open space and trail planning.

Behind the scenes, I have greatly enjoyed working with our truly stellar town staff, our amazing volunteers, and interacting with constituents.

Helping residents solve problems, practicing responsible fiscal stewardship, and moving Tewksbury forward are the reasons I ran for Select Board. The success of our town, and our democratic form of government, depends on citizens volunteering their time and knowledge. I encourage those interested in giving back to join a club, board, or committee and consider running for elected office.

I especially wish to encourage more women to run for office, because women's voices matter in the public domain. I am proud of Tewksbury's tradition of civility among board members, staff and constituents. While I have not always agreed with my colleagues, I respect and have learned from their perspectives, and appreciate their willingness and sacrifices made to serve.

I would like to thank my colleagues past and present, town staff, and the residents of Tewksbury for the support I have received during my time in public life. Most importantly, I thank my family and friends for giving me such tremendous support so that I could serve our community. I never could have done it without them.

Yours in service,
Jayne Wellman

Healey-Driscoll Administration awards $8M to expand early college programs

BOSTON — The Healey-Driscoll Administration announced that it is awarding $8 million in designated Early College grants to allow high school students to take college classes and earn college credit at no cost to them or their families. These funds will be used to support schools and higher education institutions as they design new Early College programs, as well as expand existing programs to provide an estimated additional 2,300 seats, increase staffing and recruitment, and provide professional development. Early college programs are a key part of the administration's "Reimagining High School" initiative, ensuring Massachusetts students are prepared for college or careers when they graduate high school.

"Early College programs are great for our students and great for our economy. They allow students to get college credit while they're still in high school at no cost, making it more affordable for them to get their degree and preparing them to succeed in their careers," said Governor Maura Healey. "We're also strengthening our workforce by helping students graduate with the skills that are in demand by employers today. We're proud to be expanding Early College to more schools than ever."

"Designated Early College programs have been especially meaningful in Gateway Cities, rural communities and other districts that serve large numbers of potential first-generation college students," said Lieutenant Governor Kim Driscoll. "I'm pleased to see continued interest from districts and colleges in expanding existing programs and adding new ones."

"We know that high school students are looking for more relevant learning experiences with deeper engagement. They want to see the connection between what they learn during the school day and a career or field they might be interested in pursuing down the line. That's why this administration has been focused on reimagining high school," said Education Secretary Dr. Patrick Tutwiler. "Early college programs are an essential part of this initiative, building a pathway to higher education and opening doors for students who never considered college an option."

The administration continues to expand designated Early College programs, increasing the number of students participating by nearly 2,000 since school year 2022-2023, a 31 percent increase. Further, the administration designated 16 new Early College program partnerships over the last two years. Over 9,000 students are expected to be supported this school year.

Massachusetts prioritizes participation by students historically underrepresented in higher education. The state's 12th grade early college participants are majority Black and Latino and evenly split between low-income and non-low-income students. Early college participation increases college enrollment for all racial groups, but makes the biggest difference for Latino students who historically have been the least likely to matriculate to college.

"Designated Early College programming is a proven strategy to increase college enrollment and persistence," Elementary and Secondary Education Acting Commissioner Russell D. Johnston said. "These programs provide the supports necessary to help students succeed in a college environment. We are thrilled with the Healey-Driscoll Administration's continued investment in this important initiative."

"Early college helps students see that college is for them, prepares them to succeed, and reduces the cost and time to degree," said Commissioner of Higher Education Noe Ortega. "We're grateful to the Healey-Driscoll Administration for supporting the growth and strength of Early College, which helps advance Massachusetts' higher education equity goals."

The grant recipients are as follows:

Early College Support Grant Awardees

All 55 existing designated Early College programs received $50,000 to $125,000 to continue their work.

Early College Capacity Grant Awardees, received $60,000 each:

- Argosy Collegiate Charter School (Fall River)
- Bard College at Simon's Rock (Great Barrington)
- Benjamin Franklin Cummings Institute of Technology (Boston)
- Bridgewater State University
- Bunker Hill Community College
- Framingham State University
- Middlesex Community College
- New Heights Charter School of Brockton
- North Shore Community College
- Northern Essex Community College
- Quincy Public Schools
- Revere Public Schools
- Salem State University
- Springfield Public Schools
- Springfield Technical Community College
- UMass Boston
- Waltham Public Schools
- Westfield Public Schools

Early College Planning Grant Awardees:

- Randolph High School and Bridgewater State University: $150,000
- Billerica Public Schools and UMass Commonwealth Collegiate Academy (CCA): $100,000
- Brockton Public Schools and UMass CCA: $100,000
- CityLab Innovation High School (Revere) and Benjamin Franklin Cummings Institute of Technology (Boston): $100,000
- Edward M. Kennedy Academy for Health Careers: A Horace Mann Charter Public School (Boston) and Bunker Hill Community College: $100,000
- B.M.C. Durfee High School (Fall River) and UMass CCA: $100,000
- Greater Lowell Technical High School and UMass CCA: $100,000
- Margarita Muñiz Academy (Boston) and UMass Boston: $100,000
- TechBoston Academy and UMass Boston: $100,000
- Taunton Public Schools and UMass CCA: $94,068
- Argosy Collegiate Charter School (Fall River) and UMass CCA: $93,528
- Methuen High School and UMass Lowell CCA: $90,789
- Woburn High School and UMass CCA: $69,448
- Dracut Public Schools and UMass CCA: $68,908
- Putnam High School (Springfield) and Westfield State University: $51,711
- Springfield High School of Science and Technology and Westfield State University: $51,514
- Granby, Easthampton and Hadley public school districts and UMass CCA: $51,445
- The Springfield Renaissance School and UMass CCA: $51,442
- Martha's Vineyard Regional High School and Middlesex Community College: $50,000
- New Bedford High School and UMass CCA: $50,000
- Pittsfield High School and Berkshire Community College: $50,000
- **Shawsheen Valley Technical High School (Billerica) and Middlesex Community College: $50,000**
- Taconic High School (Pittsfield) and Berkshire Community College: $50,000
- Albert D. Holland High School of Technology (Boston) and UMass Boston: $50,000
- Bourne High School and Massachusetts Maritime Academy: $50,000
- Early College Multilingual Program (Boston) and Roxbury Community College: $50,000
- Wachusett Regional High School and Worcester State University: $50,000
- Mansfield High School and Bristol Community College: $50,000
- Oliver Ames High School (Easton) and Bristol Community College/ Quincy College: $50,000
- David Prouty High School (Spencer) and Worcester State University: $40,400
- Chelmsford High School and Middlesex Community College: $26,300
- Putnam Vocational Technical Academy and UMass Amherst: $26,262

Upcoming local events

Until January 30, Toiletries Drive at the Tewksbury Public Library to benefit the Glenice Sheehan Recovery Home for Women. Items needed for women 18+ include: deodorant, feminine hygiene products, shampoo & conditioner, bath products, moisturizer, nail care items. Organized by Tewksbury Democratic Town Committee.*tewksburydems@gmail.com* to donate money.

January 16, TMHS Culture Fair 6 - 7:30 p.m. Ever wonder how Cinco de Mayo started? Interested in the origins of Bullfighting? Learn about the history, geography, and cultures of the many countries the Tewksbury Memorial High School students hail from, study, and the languages they speak. Cafeteria. Public welcomed.

January 17, Silvertones Dance Band, Tewksbury Senior Center, 175 Chandler St., 7-10 p.m., doors open at 6:30 p.m. Vocalist BB Braxten. $10 at the door includes cake, coffee, tea. Bring your own snacks.

January 18, Wilmington Public Library, Free professional headshot 10 minute session. Register at *https://shorturl.at/pD88G*

January 18, Friends of the Tewksbury Public Library book donation drive. 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., 300 Chandler St., Tewksbury. Books will be evaluated for condition.

January 23, Tewksbury Community Blood Drive at the Tewksbury Elks Lodge from 2 to 7 p.m. Lodge is located at 777 South St., Tewksbury. Come out, donate blood, and be a hero! Schedule your appointment today at *https://www.redcrossblood.org/*!

January 25, Free 30 minute music lesson, Groton Hill Music Center. Register by Jan. 18 to have a free 30 minute lesson on your favorite instrument- age 5 through adult. *https://grotonhill.org/school/freelessonday/* New students only. Give your dream instrument a try!

February 7, Tewksbury Lions Music Bingo, 7 - 11 p.m., Tewksbury Wilmington Lodge of Elks, Adult-only event, Full table $250 for 10 people. Bring snacks for the table to enjoy during the event. Cash Bar available. *No Beverages of any kind to be brought in to Event. Full Table Purchases only. Raffles, prizes.

February 15, Wilmington Shriners Music Bingo, 6 - 11 p.m., Shriners Auditorium, $20 per ticket. Bring your own snacks. Cash bar. Prizes. Questions? *bostonveteran@gmail.com*

Thursdays, Saturdays, and the first Sunday of the month, Public Health Museum, 365 East St., Open for indoor and campus tours. Check website for times. *Publichealthmuseum.org*

Book Stew Reviews

'Not for Everyday Use: A Memoir' by Elizabeth Nunez

By EILEEN MACDOUGALL

This Trinidadian author, who recently died at age 80, was born into a family of 11 children, half boys and half girls. Her parents were devoted to each other, despite her father's infidelities, and were married for decades, her father a big booster for Elizabeth and her mother, who was less affectionate, but read and critiqued every one of her daughter's 11 novels.

There's a good description of ramifications from the colorism of the Caribbean, stemming from British colonialism, and of the islander's conflicts between seeking British approval vs the resentment for the relentless oppression by the mother country.

There's a fascinating section about the Nunes (Portuguese/French Creole) vs Nunez (Trinidadian) patronymics; how some of Elizabeth's family passed as white; and how her mother's dark skin caused problems for her with her husband's family.

Elizabeth is sent from her settled Trinidad life with her parents, grandparents and siblings to an all-white small Wisconsin Catholic college as a scholarship student. She adjusts to her US life but never quite feels at home and misses her family and her glorious tropical home.

Nunez becomes a professor and a leader in the movements to redress the wrongs of colonialism and to promote Caribbean writers. She struggles with her mother's restrained treatment right up until a reconciliation in her mother's last days.

This is a moving testimonial to the difficulties of living subjugated by a tiny white minority in largely Black and indigenous Caribbean society. This fine memoir encourages the reader to explore the author's novels.

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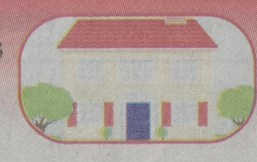

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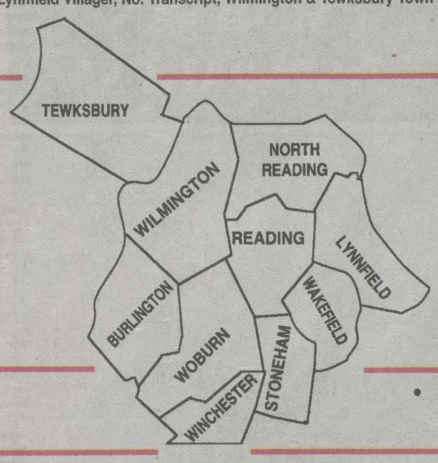

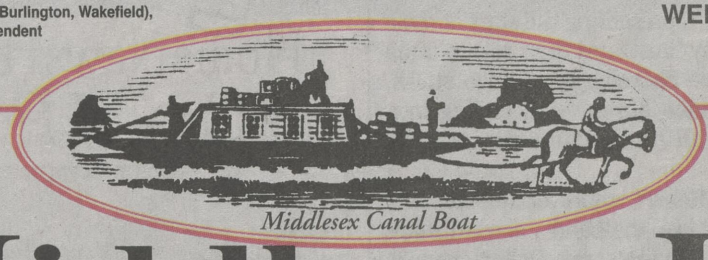

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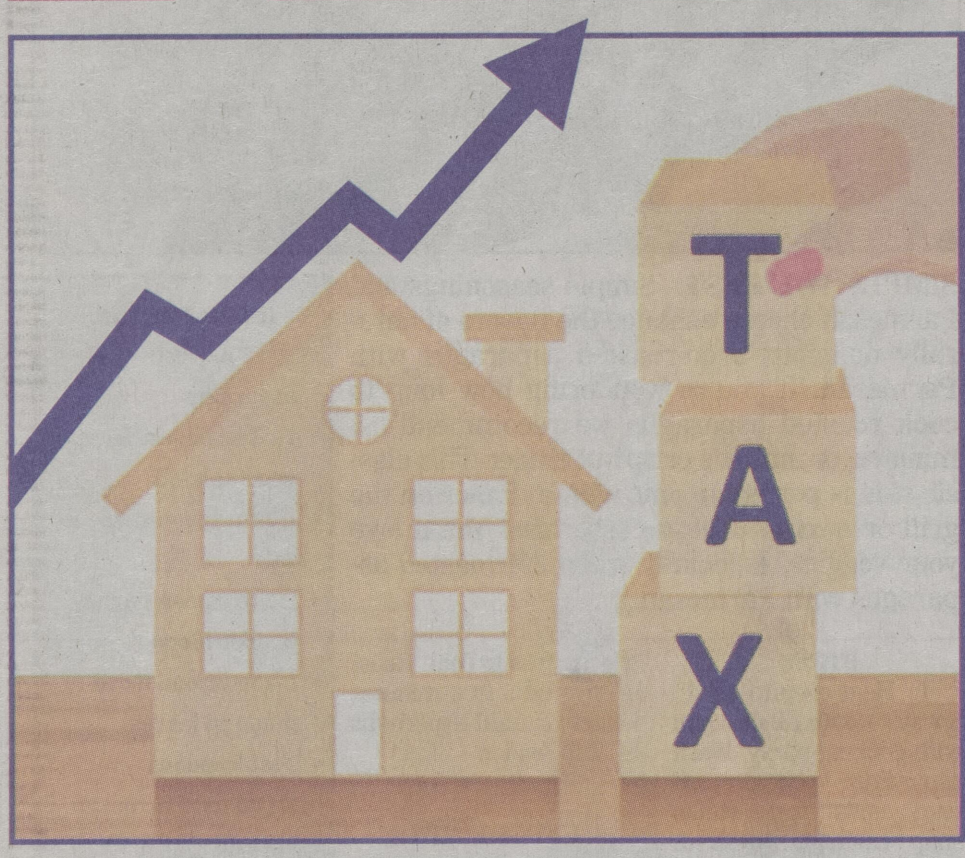

Residential tax bills continue steep ascent as home values soar

By PATRICK BLAIS

As those who owned residential properties during the Great Recession can attest, annual real-estate taxes will climb even in the face of cratering house values.

That phenomenon is because municipal spending for most area communities rises automatically in accordance with the minimum 2.5 increase to the overall tax levy allowed under state law. So even when home and commercial property values are plummeting, communities are still increasing budgets that are primarily dependent upon tax revenues.

As evidenced between 2008 and 2011, when the subprime mortgage crisis fueled massive downward adjustments to home valuations while commercial property values similarly stagnated in the face of a slowing economy, cities and towns can react to such variations by increasing basic tax rates.

By contrast, since 2015 - when many area residents discovered their home valuations had fully recovered from the Great Recession lows - almost every community in Massachusetts has witnessed a historic boom in residential home sales. To account for that new reality, area officials, who still need to increase taxes to cover the rising costs of running the local government, have been slowly decreasing tax rates to account for soaring home values.

Thus, no matter the economic environment, the end result is usually always the same: A higher annual tax bill.

However, for several years now, a number of regional assessors have been sounding the alarm about several economic trends that could drive residential tax bills even higher.

As explained by Woburn Chief Assessor John Connolly, the first concern surrounds the work-from-home shift that began with the COVID-19 pandemic and the state-mandated shutdowns of "non-essential" businesses. With many employees never returning to the office or taking advantage of flexible hybrid schedules where they commute to their workplace just a few days a week, the market for commercial office space has evaporated.

So far, Woburn has not yet witnessed high vacancy rates in its office parks, and Connolly speculates the city may be benefiting as Boston and big city employers seek mid-sized and cheaper spaces in suburban communities with easy access to major highways. But with the pace of new commercial and industrial developments cooling

• TAXES TO B2

Movie Reviews & Box Office News

Robbie Williams has always lived to entertain. In 'Better Man,' he's still doing it.

MAN OR MONKEY? - Above, Jonno Davies in a scene from "Better Man" released by Paramount Pictures. (Paramount Pictures via AP)

By JOCELYN NOVECK
AP National Writer

"I came out of the womb with jazz hands," pop star Robbie Williams recounts in "Better Man," his new biopic. "Which was very painful for my mum."

Badum Dum.

But also: Wow. What an image, to illustrate a man who, we learn, agonized from early childhood as to whether he had "it" — the star quality that could make him famous.

Turns out, he did. Williams became the hugest of stars in his native Britain, making 14 No. 1 singles and performing to screaming crowds (though he never gained traction in the United States.) And whatever else we learn from director Michael Gracey's brassy, audacious and sometimes utterly bonkers biopic, the key is that Williams' need to entertain was primal – so primal

• REVIEW TO B2

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• Review FROM B-1

that it triumphed over self-doubt, depression and addiction. It should surprise nobody, then, that this film, produced and narrated by Williams (now 50), is above all entertaining.

But wait, you may be saying: Five paragraphs in, and you haven't mentioned the monkey?

Good point. The central conceit of Gracey's film, you see, is that Williams is represented throughout by a monkey — a CGI monkey, that is (actor Jonno Davies provides the captured moves and speaking voice). This decision is never explained or even referred to.

There's a clue, though, in one of Williams' opening lines: "I want to show you how I really see myself." Gracey based his film on many hours of taped interviews he did with Williams. He says the pop star told him at one point that he felt like a monkey sent out to entertain the masses — particularly in his teens as a member of the boy band Take That. It was Gracey's idea to take this idea and run with it.

We begin in 1982, in Stoke-on-Trent, England. Young Robert Williams is bad at football and mercilessly taunted. But there's no football in his DNA, he explains. There is cabaret.

He gets the performing itch from his father. When Sinatra appears on telly singing "My Way," little Robert jumps up to join Dad (Steve Pemberton, excellent) in singing along. But Dad cares more about performing than parenting, and one day just leaves home for good. Robert is raised by his mum and his adoring grandmother, who assures him he's a somebody, not a nobody.

At 15, flailing in school, Robert auditions for Take That, the boy band, and somehow makes the cut. The band first covers the gay club circuit — until it emerges that girls go wild over these young men.

Director Gracey, who helmed "The Greatest Showman," is quite the showman himself, never more obviously than in a terrific musical sequence that chronicles the band's journey to success. Filmed to Williams' hit "Rock DJ" on London's Regent Street and featuring some 500 extras, the number starts with the boys hardly noticed by passersby, representing the start of their career. Gracey illustrates their rise to fame with explosive choreography, pogo sticks, scooters, London buses — all ending in a flash mob with hundreds dancing on the famed street.

And now, Robert is forever Robbie - his name changed by the band's shrewd manager, Nigel. "Where's my Robert gone?" asks his grandmother (a touching Alison Steadman), bewildered by the hype. "I'm a pop star now," he replies.

But fame brings all sorts of trouble for Robbie. Later, he will note that when you become famous, your age freezes - so he never graduates from 15. He sinks into depression and develops alcohol and cocaine habits.

But when the band kicks him out, his competitive fire is stoked: He's going to have a "massive" solo career. A woman overhears him saying this to himself at a New Year's party; she turns out to be Nicole Appleton, of the girl band All Saints. Another of Gracey's grand song and dance numbers ("She's the One") covers their troubled relationship, including an abortion.

Nicole ends up leaving Williams (for Liam Gallagher of Oasis), part of a miserable time for the singer, who manages to destroy most of his relationships. But he reaches a career pinnacle, performing at the storied Knebworth Festival to some 375,000 adoring fans.

Gracey punctuates shots of Williams performing with a violent, medieval-style battle between the singer and his demons — other (monkey) versions of him, essentially. It's another over-the-top sequence that makes this biopic radically different than most — if also a tad indulgent (and a bit too long).

But, hey, it's all in service of one thing. "Let me entertain you," Williams seems to be screaming through every scene. Mostly, he succeeds.

"Better Man," a Paramount release, has been rated R by the Motion Picture Association "for drug use, pervasive language, sexual content, nudity and some violent content." Running time: 135 minutes. Three stars out of four.

For more movies reviews please visit www.homenewshere.com.

HomeNewsHere RECIPE

ROASTED PARMESAN ASPARAGUS

SIMPLY THE BEST - Simple seasonings and Parmesan cheese enhance the flavors of naturally delicious oven-roasted asparagus with Parmesan. If you're wondering how long to cook roasted asparagus we recommend 5-8 minutes, or until it's crisp but tender. This classic side is perfect to pair with a dinner on the grill or next to cheesy casseroles. You'll love your veggies, especially when it's roasted asparagus with Parmesan.

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 1/2 lb fresh asparagus
- 2 tablespoons olive or vegetable oil
- 1/2 teaspoon seasoned salt
- 1/2 teaspoon garlic pepper blend
- 1/2 teaspoon dried oregano leaves
- 2 tablespoons shredded Parmesan cheese

STEPS

1. Heat oven to 425°F. Spray 15x10x1-inch pan with cooking spray. Wash asparagus; break off tough ends where stalks snap easily. If desired, peel stems of spears.

2. In shallow bowl, mix remaining ingredients except cheese; toss with asparagus to coat. Spread in pan.

3. Roast uncovered 10 minutes. Sprinkle with cheese; toss to coat. Roast uncovered 5 to 8 minutes longer or until asparagus is crisp-tender.

EXPERT TIPS

• Have the asparagus trimmed and ready to bake.

• Substitute 1/4 teaspoon each garlic powder and coarse ground pepper for the garlic-pepper blend.

• Taxes FROM B-1

over the past few years, the chief assessor is keeping close tabs on the potential impact to new growth and tax revenue streams.

"The smaller users are still coming here and leasing space, but it's not the 30,000 to 40,000 square foot leases [that we're used to seeing]," said the chief assessor during Woburn's annual tax classification hearing last month.

"Residential tells the story for the City of Woburn and it's not just in Woburn," he said of soaring residential property values. "For the new growth we've had, personal property tax [streams] have been outstanding. But the commercial and industrial growth has been minimal."

The effect of a major commercial/industrial market downtown could prove somewhat disastrous for Woburn, which relies on its large business-base to offset the tax burdens felt by everyday citizens.

That's because in Massachusetts, cities and towns are allowed to decrease tax burdens on homeowners by adopting a dual tax rate that includes a higher charge for commercial/industrial landowners. The mechanism is set in place by adopting a minimum residential factor, which results in a CIP value.

The greater the CIP, the larger the portion of the overall tax levy commercial and industrial classes are responsible for covering.

Over the past year, single-family home values in Woburn climbed on average by around $30,557 to surpass the $700,000 mark for the first-time in the city's history. Meanwhile, homeowners, who last year were asked to should a $78 increase in their annual tax bill, will be on average charged $583 more in annual real-estate taxes in FY'26.

As cities and towns are noticing a cooling off on new commercial developments, builders are increasingly scooping up businesses and obtaining permits to convert those properties into multi-family apartments. For example, in the neighboring Town of Stoneham, local officials have over the past few years approved several such projects, including:

• A 72-unit redevelopment of the old China Moon restaurant site along Route 28;

• A 270-unit apartment complex that is being erected on an old trucking terminal site off of Maple Street by I-93 and Montvale Avenue;

• And a 378-unit redevelopment of the old Boston Regional Medical Center site, a 10-acre property where a previously approved life sciences project was scrapped in 2023 due to a market downturn.

With the state's controversial MBTA Communities initiative likely to accelerate the multi-family development construction boom, as smaller communities like Stoneham allow commercial properties to be converted into housing projects, those municipalities lose the ability to cushion homeowners from drastic tax increases through a CIP shift.

Just weeks ago, during a Town Hall gathering, Stoneham Select Board member George Seibold lamented those demographic changes and argued that the town should be able to tax large-scale apartment buildings like all other commercial entities. Absent action from the state legislature, local officials are forbidden from imposing such a change in property tax classifications.

"If they're not owner-occupied, it is a business," said Seibold. "[Treating these complexes as regular owner-occupied houses] affects a lot of small towns like ours. We're one of the first towns outside of Boston and now we're changing into a city [because so many apartments are being constructed]."

This year, the average Stoneham homeowner, whose single-family residence rocketed in value over the previous 12 month by some $56,000, will see their annual tax bills climb by $321 to $7,834.

Stoneham is not the only bedroom community debating whether to change tax policy in light of the increasing share of the tax levy being born by homeowners.

For example, in Reading, which had until very recently had a de-facto single tax-rate, divided Select Board members clashed over whether to increase the CIP shift to give some relief to community residents.

Proponents of implementing a higher CIP shift - a move from 1.1 to 1.2 was proposed - argued that Reading's homeowners deserve a break as average home values climbed by roughly $34,000 over the past year to around $893,100. The Select Board had the ability to raise the CIP to as high as 1.5 or 150 percent.

Contending that shift was too drastic and would hurt small businesses that are reeling from inflationary pressures, a three-person Select Board majority ultimately voted to impose a much small shift that will bring Reading's CIP shift to 1.11 or 111 percent. .

"I would not look to jump to 1.2 just because our small businesses in town are already hurting," said Reading Select Board member Melissa Murphy during the town's annual tax classification hearing in late October. "They pay for things that are not included in our residential tax rate, but I do appreciate and understand as a resident myself, that residents are also paying for a lot...I hope that [1.11] could be a compromise for everyone."

Ultimately, Reading's typical single-family taxpayer will be shelling out around $10,172 in annual real-estate taxes - or about $104 more than the year prior.

Also coming in below the maximum 175 percent shift allowed by state law, the Town of Tewksbury this year approved a CIP of 1.66. With the average single-family home jumping by around $27,000 over the past year to $629,508, the typical town resident will be asked to pay around $254 in new taxes in FY'26.

In neighboring Wilmington, the town's Select Board imposed the maximum 175 percent shift, which will result in the average homeowner's tax bill increasing by $232 to $9,180 in FY'26. Currently, the typical single-family house in town, which increased by around 11.6 percent over thee past 12 months, is valued at $702,000.

Meanwhile, in Burlington, which like Woburn enjoys a substantial commercial/industrial base, the average home value climbed by more than $57,000 over the past year to $725,800. Under the split tax rate adopted by the Burlington Select Board in late November, residents can expect to shell out $6,772 in real-estate taxes in FY'26 - or about $284 more than the year prior.

Saturday, February 1 at 7:30 p.m.

Linden Tree Concerts present: Rock Hearts live on stage

For anyone unfamiliar with Rock Hearts you need to know that they are a powerhouse bluegrass group, featuring some of New England's finest. They bring lots of talent, experience, and a distinctive sound of their own.

Linden Tree Concerts is pleased to present Rock Hearts on Saturday, February 1 at 7:30 pm in Wakefield, MA.

Formed in 2013, Rock Hearts brings together five seasoned musicians from Southern New England who love to sing and pick bluegrass, old country tunes, and seek out tunes from other genres to "bluegrass." Named an Official 2021 IBMA Showcase Band, the band is enjoying national radio and chart activity. They are a sought-after band for major festivals in the USA and Canada.

The group works closely with Sammy Passamano, in Nashville, the 615 Hideaway record label owner. Their first independent project, Starry Southern Nights, put them on the national radar. A year later they signed with Sammy Passamano and released their first 615 Hideaway Records label single from their new project, Wanderlust, which continues to receive outstanding fanfare and radio attention. Their 3rd project and second with the 615, Unfinished Bridges, is by far their best work yet. It's experiencing tremendous success. With the full album and several singles debuting in the Top 10 on national charts, including five #1 positions.

ROCK HEARTS

"Rock Hearts' Unfinished Bridges deserves a large audience and copious praise." Colin Jordan Rock Hearts has shared the stage with some of the top bands in the industry including, Del McCoury, Jonathan Edwards, Dan Tyminski, the Seldom Scene, and many more.

The band consists of founding member and banjo player, Joe Deetz, lead man and guitar/vocals, *Alex MacLeod, the newest Kentucky Mandolin endorsed artist, *Billy Thibodeau, bassist, Rick Brodsky, and fiddler/2023 IBMA Mentor of the Year nominee, *Austin Scelzo.

*Alex MacLeod is one of ten songwriters selected for the 2024 IBMA WOB Songwriter Showcase.

*Austin Scelzo is nominated for the 2024 IBMA Momentum Awards: Industry Involvement; nominated for 2023 IBMA WOB Momentum Mentor of the Year; IBMA Leadership 2024

*Billy Thibodeau was recently inducted into the Maine Country Music Hall of Fame and named as a Saga Music Instruments Mandolin Artist (KM1500); IBMA Leadership 2017

More information about the band and photos can be found on their website: Rockheartsbluegrass.com

Tickets for this concert are $25 (those under 18 are $10) CASH or CHECK only are accepted at the door. Homemade baked goods and beverages hot and cold are sold before the show and during intermission. Doors open at 7 with the show beginning at 7:30pm. For preferential seating call 781 246 2836 by noon on performance days.

Note Bluegrass night often sells out early.

Linden Tree's 40th season concerts are now held at the Wakefield Lynnfield United Methodist Church at 273 Vernon St. Wakefield, MA 01880 Easy to find from 95. Parking Lot by church rear entrance. Handicapped access too. For more information www.LindenTreeCoffeehouse.org.

• Real Estate Transfers •

BURLINGTON

8 Morrison Rd was sold to Chaudhry, Paramjit S and Chaudhry, Sangeeta by Vincent, Nazar for $2,050,000 on 12/23/24

23 Wilmington Rd was sold to 23 Wilmington Rd LLC by Wilmington Road 23 Rt and Reardon, Michael J for $590,000 on 12/24/24

LYNNFIELD

17 Crest Rd was sold to Davidhi, Adela and Davidhi, Amarildo by Toomey Doris E Est and Duffy, Ellen I for $750,000 on 12/26/24

9 Hunting Ln was sold to Us Realty Development LLC by Keene Ft and Keene, Bradford E for $800,000 on 12/23/24

10 Robin Rd was sold to Mcdonald, Carolyn by Robert S Thomas Sr Irt and Altobello, Erin M for $899,900 on 12/23/24

813 Summer St was sold to Pal, Ayan and Pal, Samragnee C by Kent, Daniel S and Kent, Elizabeth D for $935,000 on 12/27/24

Vallis Way #2 was sold to Dawson, Andrew K and Dawson, Nancy L by Vallis Way Lynnfield LLC for $1,490,000 on 12/23/24

NORTH READING

8 Bellflower Rd was sold to Jones, Michelle by Bradbuilt Const Co LLC for $1,015,000 on 12/23/24

22 Burditt Rd was sold to Daly, Shannon and Lapusata, John T by Renda, Jason M for $575,000 on 12/23/24

4 Clover Rd was sold to Tocco, John and Tocco, Jessica by Gonzalez Ft and Gonzalez, Richard C for $1,370,000 on 12/26/24

51 Swan Pond Rd was sold to Francisco, Jeffrey A and Francisco, Jenna by Rancourt, Michael and Rancourt, Laura for $1,315,000 on 12/27/24

READING

217 Lowell St was sold to Greene, Matthew J and Keyton, Kasandra by Elegante Ventures LLC for $723,200 on 12/23/24

38 Salem St #A was sold to Oneil, Kathryn C and Kassas, George D by Delegas, Nicole for $700,000 on 12/27/24

605 Summer Ave #4-508 was sold to Kant, Barbara by Jean F Marcy T and Marcy, Jean F for $485,000 on 12/23/24

STONEHAM

198 Hancock St was sold to Best Realty LLC by Dearth Marjorie R Est and Oleary, Cynthia B for $515,000 on 12/24/24

TEWKSBURY

42 Dudley Rd was sold to Demoura, Gustavo and Tarani, Nicole M by Surette Robert N Est and Surette, Linda M for $550,000 on 12/23/24

Harris Ct #23 was sold to Demoura, Gustavo and Tarani, Nicole M by Surette Robert N Est and Surette, Linda M for $550,000 on 12/23/24

9 Merrimack Meadows Ln #9 was sold to Haddad, Steven by Natale, Matthew R and Natale, Elizabeth for $457,711 on 12/27/24

92 Merrimack Meadows Ln #92 was sold to Allen, Patrick by Milano, Nancy J for $505,000 on 12/27/24

230 Nevada Rd was sold to Nall, Michael by Hanscom Fcu for $567,800 on 12/24/24

27 Stonebury Way #27 was sold to Diane Danault RET and Danault, Diane Y by Dominic L Paparo Lt and Mcdonald, Karen J for $620,000 on 12/27/24

197 Vale St was sold to Sim, William by Glory Enterprise LLC for $547,000 on 12/27/24

WAKEFIELD

5 Upland Rd was sold to Ambegaokar, Yash H and Shah, Divya R by Duarte, Morgana L and Da Costa, Thenrice N for $825,000 on 12/23/24

WINCHESTER

15 Dix St #9 was sold to Brant C Obrien RET and Obrien, Brant C by Cygnets Reserve LLC for $995,000 on 12/23/24

22 Grove Pl #30 was sold to Leccacorvi, Richard and Leccacorvi, Lisa by Zhu, Dongwei and Guan, Weihe for $1,025,000 on 12/23/24

10 Marshall Rd was sold to Yalcin, Nilufer and Celik, Furkan by Carly M Carney RET and Carney, Carly M for $1,885,000 on 12/23/24

37-39 Middlesex St was sold to Ricardo, Anthony M and Leggiero, Maura A by Fatemi, Ladan and Fatemi, Alan for $1,000,000 on 12/23/24

28 Thornberry Rd was sold to Singh, Manish K and Singh, Manisha by Punnose, Bency for $1,335,000 on 12/27/24

37 Tufts Rd was sold to Morley, Donald and Morley, Patricia by Taylor, Kristin L and Taylor, David M for $1,450,000 on 12/26/24

WOBURN

59 Forest Park Rd was sold to Giovinazzo, Anthony J by Quinno, Richard A and Quinno, Carol F for $705,000 on 12/23/24

11 Foster St was sold to Marx, Michael by Kirunda, Kenny and Kirunda, Lydia for $575,000 on 12/23/24

3 Linda St was sold to Choi, Nicholas D and Choi, Angelina-Marie by Baptista Jr, Joseph E and Baptista, Pamela D for $830,000 on 12/27/24

16 Stoneham St was sold to Garg, Ity and Goyal, Devendra by Navarro Ft and Navarro, Joseph for $722,000 on 12/27/24

REDD KROSS

Wednesday, February 29 at 7:30 p.m.

Award-winning film about band Redd Kross premieres at Arlington's historic Regent Theatre

Arlington's historic Regent Theatre will host a theatrical premiere by screening the award-winning and definitive film about Redd Kross at 7:30 pm on Wednesday, February 29, 2025. Born Innocent - The Redd Kross Story starring Jeff and Steven McDonald, was first introduced at several prestigious film festivals in the last quarter of 2024 and makes the case for Redd Kross as the seminal West Coast band of the last half century. Their influence reaches across the genres of punk, college rock, grunge, metal and indie rock. Long a "secret handshake" favorite of true music fans, it's time for the world to discover the joyful and irresistible music of The McDonald Brothers again!

Telling the story of Jeff and Steve McDonald is a way of telling the story of Los Angeles from the late 70's onwards. As the band was beginning in their garage, their neighborhood was being razed all around them to make way for one of the freeways that accompanied Los Angeles's expanding population. That was just the first of the transformations they lived through. They have seen many versions of Los Angeles come and go, and they have incredible stories to tell from each one, with their Zelig-like ability to always be at the cutting edge of where the action was. Unlike other famous, feuding brother teams like Ray and Dave Davies of The Kinks, or Noel and Liam Gallagher of Oasis, the McDonalds have incredibly kept their collaboration going for four decades.

Emerging from humble beginnings in suburban Los Angeles, Jeff and Steven took their rock 'n' roll fantasy and ran with it — becoming one of the most influential American bands of their time. The band's flamboyant, genre-defying, joyously tuneful blend of musical, sartorial and pop cultural elements profoundly influenced the punk rock, glam metal and grunge movements and won them a worldwide cult of fervent admirers that includes bands like Pearl Jam, Foo Fighters, Sonic Youth, L7 and The Bangles. Moreover Thurston Moore, a founding member and guitarist for the New York City band, Sonic Youth once was quoted as saying, "To me, Redd Kross will always be one of the most important bands of the last 30-40 years."

The McDonald brothers have influenced independent music in ways that beg to be acknowledged. From inventing Beach Punk to influencing the Grunge and Hair Metal movements, Redd Kross have maintained the highest level of musical integrity, originality and quality for over forty years.

They are the underappreciated link between countless threads of Los Angeles rock. The band that connects Black Flag to The Partridge Family, The Runaways to The Cowsills Seeds, The Go-Go's to The Red Hot Chili Peppers. Born Innocent will introduce a wider audience to two of the coolest people alive. The McDonald Brothers embody Southern California, rock and roll, and what it means to be an artist.

Redd Kross continue rocking to this day, much to the intense delight of fans old and new. And now the McDonalds team up with award-winning music journalist Dan Epstein to tell their wild, hilarious and glorious star-spangled tale. Epstein, in preparation for the films rollout last year wrote, "I made Born Innocent to bring joy to music fans. Redd Kross has one of the most enjoyable catalogs and incredible stories in all of rock and roll, yet they are far too little known.

The story of Jeff and Steve McDonald is a one of unyielding creative vision and persistence. I believe getting to know the brothers over the course of the film can provide inspiration to creative people in any field.

They believed in themselves, they didn't follow trends, and they were willing to be in opposition to the counterculture they were a part of when they felt it was becoming too hidebound and reactionary.

The film's runtime is 87 minutes and features members of Pearl Jam, The Go Go's, Soundgarden, Black Flag, The Bangles, Sonic Youth, The Muffs as well as many other iconic musicians. General Admission tickets are $18.00 with discounts available for seniors, students and veterans. The Regent Theatre "Arlington's Show Place of Entertainment" since 1916 is located on 7 Medford Street in Arlington, Massachusetts—minutes from Cambridge, Boston, and Routes 2 and 95.

For tickets and more information visit https://regenttheatre.com or call 781-646-4849.

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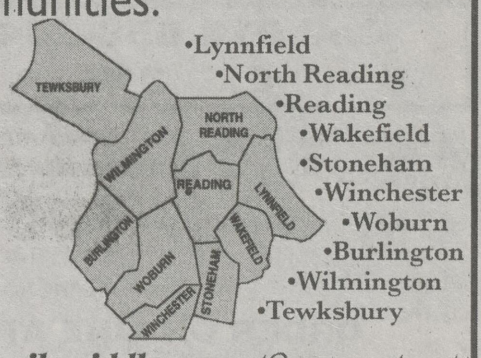

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Tewksbury Police Log

Chelsea man arrested for assault and battery

Monday, January 6

4:37 a.m. - Caller stated someone hit the cart corral and there was headlight and taillight pieces left at Home Depot. Car was no longer at the scene. Police sent. They spoke to the manager and checked the area for the vehicle. Gone on arrival. Officer filed a report.

2:11 p.m. - A suspicious male party came into the walk-in party's business at Main Street. Police sent. They confirmed the male party worked for Verizon.

7:24 p.m. - Caller reported an unwanted party due to person screaming and yelling at no apparent person at Motel 6. A hispanic male party wore a green coat was screaming profanities and threw a beer. Police sent. Nothing was found.

7:30 p.m. - Resident said he believed he heard a female screaming and possibly being raped at Merrimack Meadows Lane. This was about five minutes before calling. Police sent. The subject just got home within the last five minutes. All parties were spoken to and it appeared caller could have heard noises from his headphones.

7:39 p.m. - A 911 caller reported her mom was worried because a dollar bill was attached the back of her car at Neptune. Street. Police sent. They reported speaking to subjects and giving them advice.

Tuesday, January 7

12:48 p.m. - A 911 caller reported a customer was upset at Sooner Lube. She had parked her car blocking the service bay. Police sent. They spoke to the female party about the issue with the vehicle and advised her of the right to file a complaint in small claims court.

1:54 p.m. - Multiple 911 callers reported a physical altercation between two parties in the vestibule of Family Care Center. A male party six foot two, wearing an orange jacket with black vest, with long hair, physically assaulted other party and accused them of vandalizing his car. Caller reported party broke the glass at the doctor's office and left in an orange SUV. Police sent. Two men were physically fighting and the one of them broke the glass partition in the office. They requested ambulance for an evaluation. Officer filed a report.

4:28 p.m. - Security stated a white male in his 30s taking off his clothes and causing a scene at Tewksbury State Hospital. Police sent. Nicholas Gravalle, 34, of 12 Madison Ave. in Chelsea, was arrested and charged with a warrant for breaking and entering felony assault and battery on family, and a warrant for strangulation or suffocation on assault and battery on a family member.

10:31 p.m. - Caller reported erratic operator on East Street heading toward Andover. A box truck was all over the road. Police sent. Caller advised the truck crossed into Andover. Andover Police Department notified.

Wednesday, January 8

8:25 a.m. - Guests were informed they could not be extended and have become verbally argumentative at Marriott. Other half of the dispute called in stating the hotel was trying to remove them from the property. Police sent and officer filed a report.

9:07 a.m. - Caller stated two maintenance employees have threatened her in her residence at Archstone Avenue. She said they had yelled at her and said, "they know what to do with her." Police sent. Officer filed a report.

1:47 p.m. - A 911 transfer with a caller stated a motor vehicle was driving erratically and almost hit cars at North Street and Andover Street. Vehicle turned south on to North Street from Andover Street about seven minutes ago. Police sent and notified. They asked to hold calls and if its of an urgent nature reach out for mutual aid.

Thursday, January 9

5:26 a.m. - Caller stated motor vehicle at the end of the driveway with lights flashing at National Grid Energy Delivery. Caller cannot see anything. Police sent. They checked the area and no motor vehicle in either driveway.

10:41 a.m. - A walk-in's daughter had unexplained bruises at Needs Center. Female was 26 years old, non-verbal and autistic. Police sent. Officer spoke to the party. This incident took place in Dracut before she got to the Needs Center. Mother of party already reported this to Dracut Police Department. They would handle it.

3:10 p.m. - Male party with a brown jacket, light gray pants, walking through his neighbor's yard at Windham Road. Police sent. The male belonged at this home.

Friday, January 10

8:18 a.m. - Caller looking to speak to an officer because he was being threatened by a coworker at Saunders Building State Hospital. Police sent. They were no threats made. They spoke with the facilities director who reported that it was a disagreement between two employees which had already been investigated on all levels.

4:31 p.m. - Caller reported. Suspicious vehicle parked in the area of Forest Avenue and Lowell Street. Caller stated silver Camry occupied parked in the area for 30 minutes. Police sent. The vehicle was unoccupied.

Saturday, January 11

2 p.m. - DPW reported a communication line down at Maryland Road. Comcast was notified and officer filed a report.

5:46 p.m. - Caller reported they had a female party in the office that was apprehended for ski tampering at Walmart. Police sent and officer filed a report.

11:36 p.m. - Caller reported a vehicle doing doughnuts in the lot of Innovation Drive. Police sent and checked the area, but they were gone on arrival.

Sunday, January 12

3:12 a.m. - Caller stated she heard a lot of banging coming from Ames Hill Drive. Police sent. Officer spoke to the party. They were packing suitcases and the caller understands.

12:10 p.m. - Caller stated a motor vehicle was driving erratically and looked like they were on the phone at Residences at Tewksbury Commons. Car pulled into the parking lot. Police sent. They checked the lot, but they could not located the vehicle.

Wilmington Police Log

Possible robbery at local bank on Lowell Street

Friday, Jan. 3:

10:09 a.m.: A white 2024 Ford Transit and a black 2004 Dodge Ram were involved in a motor vehicle accident on Main Street. No injuries were reported, and police handled paperwork exchange.

10:50 a.m.: Ana Luiza Dos Santos Pereira of 16 Hatch St., Apt. #2, in Everett, was issued a summons for unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, failure to stop/yield, and failure to wear a seatbelt. This followed a stop of her gray 2016 Audi A3 on Lowell Street.

1:08 p.m.: Cristian Camilo Giraldo Guisao of 592 Washington Ave., in Chelsea, was issued a summons for unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle. This followed his involvement in a motor vehicle accident between his black 2011 Hyundai Elantra and a black 2023 Ford Mustang on Main Street.

Saturday, Jan. 4:

1 a.m.: A police cruiser was involved in a motor vehicle accident with a red 2011 Toyota Avalon on Main Street. No injuries were reported, and police notified the DPW and state police of the accident.

10:25 a.m.: A caller reported that money was missing from their vehicle after it was cleaned at Triton Car Wash on Main Street.

10:39 p.m.: Guido Salinas of 19 Anita Ave., in Trumbull, CT, was issued a summons for operating a motor vehicle with a suspended license and failure to stop/yield. This followed a stop of his red 2025 Jeep Compass on Burlington Avenue.

Sunday, Jan. 5:

5:06 p.m.: A gray 2023 Toyota Sienna hit a deer on Lowell Street. No airbags were deployed, and the driver was not injured.

8:33 p.m.: A gray 2017 Toyota Corolla and a black 2017 Nissan Rogue were involved in a motor vehicle accident on Concord Street. No injuries were reported, and no airbags were deployed.

Monday, Jan. 6:

6:14 a.m.: Justin Olivero of 2 Museum Sq., Apt. #409, in Lawrence, was issued a summons for operating a motor vehicle with a suspended license, a number plate violation, and a miscellaneous motor vehicle equipment violation. This followed a stop of his black 2002 Volkswagen Golf on Industrial Way.

12:11 p.m.: A walk-in party sought advice regarding a possible assault at their workplace, the Amazon Logistics on Fordham Road.

12:22 p.m.: A caller on Deming Way Ext. reported a package was taken from their residence. The caller contacted their insurance company for a replacement.

Tuesday, Jan. 7:

7:08 a.m.: Ivanilson Ferreira da Silva of 18 Baldwin St., in Malden, was issued a summons for unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle and speeding in violation of special regulations. This followed a stop of his white 2021 Mazda CX-30 on Lowell Street.

1:10 p.m.: A caller on Roosevelt Road reports that their packages were taken. The caller later called back stating that their packages were brought in by a neighbor to get them out of the weather, and requested the report be cancelled.

9:14 p.m.: A white 2022 Toyota Rav4 almost hit a police cruiser, struck a tree, and then backed into the police cruiser on Middlesex Avenue. The woman who was driving declined medical attention.

Wednesday, Jan. 8:

2:01 a.m.: Rodrigo Sousa of 15 Everett Ave., in Somerville, was issued an unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, not having a valid inspection sticker, and speeding in violation of special regulations. This followed him being reported missing by a friend after he didn't show up for work.

2:50 a.m.: Shaun Patrick Doherty of 22 Cold Spring Road, in North Reading, was arrested for a 2nd offense of OUI-Liquor over .08% and possession of an open container of alcohol in a motor vehicle. This followed two separate callers reporting that he fell asleep at the traffic light on Concord Street.

1:17 p.m.: Richard F Yeo of 40 Sachem St., in Billerica, was issued a summons for operating a motor vehicle with a suspended or revoked registration, operating an uninsured motor vehicle, and speeding. This followed a stop of his black 2010 Nissan Maxima on Hopkins Street.

9:10 p.m.: Jeremy L Huntoon of 20 Pine St., in Gorham, NH, was issued a summons for defrauding a restaurant. This followed a caller at Pancho's Cantina on Ballardvale Street reporting that a man ordered food and multiple drinks, claimed to be going outside for a smoke, and not returning, only leaving an expired or fraudulent credit card.

Thursday, Jan. 9:

8:44 a.m.: Multiple people at the Bank of America on Lowell Street reported a man attempting to take money. One party was described as an older man wearing a jean jacket and jeans, while two other parties were described as Hispanic men wearing black hoodies.

5:16 p.m.: A caller on West Street reported packages were stolen off her porch that Tuesday, but had camera footage of the vehicle and license plate involved.

8:42 p.m.: A black 2007 Acura MDX hit a deer on Lowell Street. The deer took off, and the driver stated they were unharmed.

Fighting fraud in the new year, how to protect yourself from scams in 2025

BOSTON — With the holiday season in the rearview mirror and a new year underway, scammers are still hard at work focusing on new victims. Imposters often take advantage of this busy time of year, posing as Eversource representatives and threatening to disconnect customers' power unless they make an immediate payment on the spot. The energy company is reminding residents and businesses to be on the lookout for common signs of scams, whether it's in person, over the phone, or online.

"Many scammers are successful because they use scare tactics and threats, demanding customers act quickly or face serious consequences if they don't give money or personal information," said Eversource Senior Vice President for Customer Operations and Digital Strategy Jared Lawrence. "These imposters take advantage of the panic someone might feel after hearing, with little warning, that their power will be shut off in the middle of winter. We want customers to remember that we will never demand instant payment over the phone, require gift cards or other non-standard methods of payment, or request personal information in an unsolicited call, text message, or email. If you ever question that the person you're speaking with isn't who they say they are, hang up right away, and give us a call at 800-592-2000."

Police departments around the state regularly receive reports of imposter scams.

"Scammers often pose as representatives of trusted organizations, including utility companies, to target residents — especially seniors — and businesses in an attempt to obtain personal information or payments," said Chief Brian P. Levesque of the Dartmouth Police Department. "If you receive an unsolicited call or message from someone claiming to represent Eversource or another company, hang up immediately and verify the request by reaching out to the company through their official channels. Remember, no reputable company will ever request or accept payment through gift cards or cryptocurrency such as Bitcoin. Additionally, to help raise awareness and protect others from such fraudulent activities, I strongly encourage everyone to report these incidents to their local police department."

Eversource and Dartmouth Police also offer these additional tips to help avoid becoming a victim:

Eversource representatives do not require the use of prepaid debit cards, such as GreenDot MoneyPak, Vanilla, or Reloadit. They will also never ask customers to pay using a Bitcoin ATM or a gift card.

Eversource representatives never request customers meet at a department or grocery store to make a payment.

Customers should never provide personal, financial, or account information to any unsolicited person on the phone, at the door, or online, even if they seem legitimate.

Eversource does not solicit door-to-door or on the phone on behalf of third-party energy suppliers.

All Eversource employees carry photo identification; field workers wear clothing with the company logo and drive company vehicles.

Customers who are scheduled for disconnection due to nonpayment receive written notice that includes information on how to maintain their service.

Customers who doubt a call, in-person interaction, text, or email is legitimate should call Eversource directly to confirm the authenticity of the contact.

Customers should not search for Eversource's phone number or website through a search engine. You can find contact information, including the website, on your Eversource bill.

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Wilmington SPORTS
THURSDAY, JANUARY 16, 2025

Wildcats improve to 4-4

Rejuvenated Wilmington High boys basketball team on a roll

By DOUG HASTINGS
Sports Correspondent
sports@yourtowncrier.com

The Wilmington High boys basketball team had a 2-5 record heading into its Friday game with Melrose.

After the game, the Wildcats were 4-4.

Math doesn't make sense?

That's because it shouldn't.

Early on Friday, Stoneham was forced to forfeit the first seven games of its season, all victories, because of an ineligible player on the SHS roster. The reversed Wilmington's early-season loss to the Spartans.

Shortly after learning that news, the Wildcats earned their best victory of the season with a thrilling 50-48 verdict over Melrose, one of the top teams in the Middlesex League's Freedom Division.

Wilmington led by as many as 19 points late in the first half and then saw the Red Hawks rally to eventually take the lead in front of a crowded home gymnasium early in the fourth quarter, but WHS showed lots of resilience down the stretch.

The 'Cats trailed 40-39 before an exciting final six minutes.

Junior Connor Sullivan knocked down a 3-pointer to put Wilmington back in front. Moments later, senior Ayden Balter gobbled up an offensive rebound and converted a layup, drawing a foul in the process. Balter missed the foul shot (more on that later), but WHS still led 44-40.

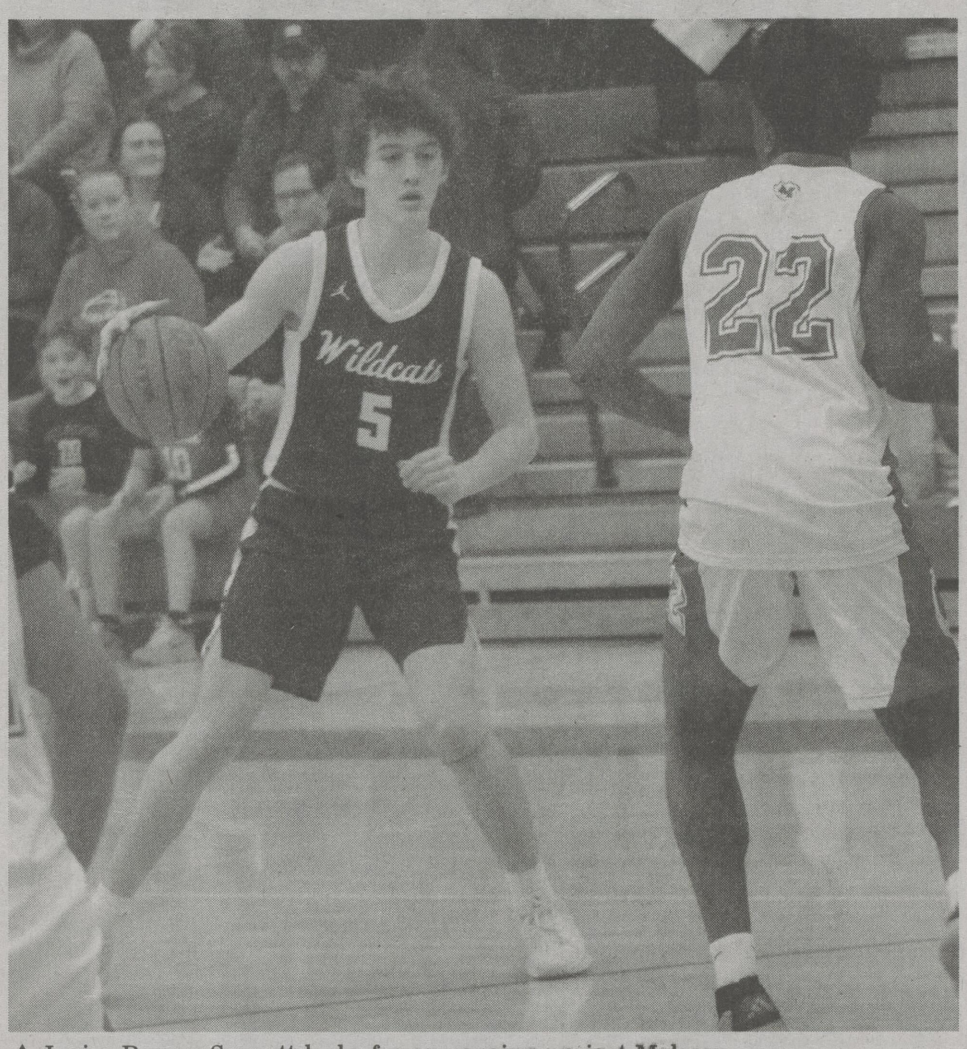
After consecutive hoops by Hawk senior John Lamas, who was immense down the stretch for Melrose, Wilmington junior Will Poyant drained a monster 3-pointer.

While Poyant's biggest contribution was his tireless defense on Melrose standout John Arens, he contributed a couple of huge shots for the Wildcats.

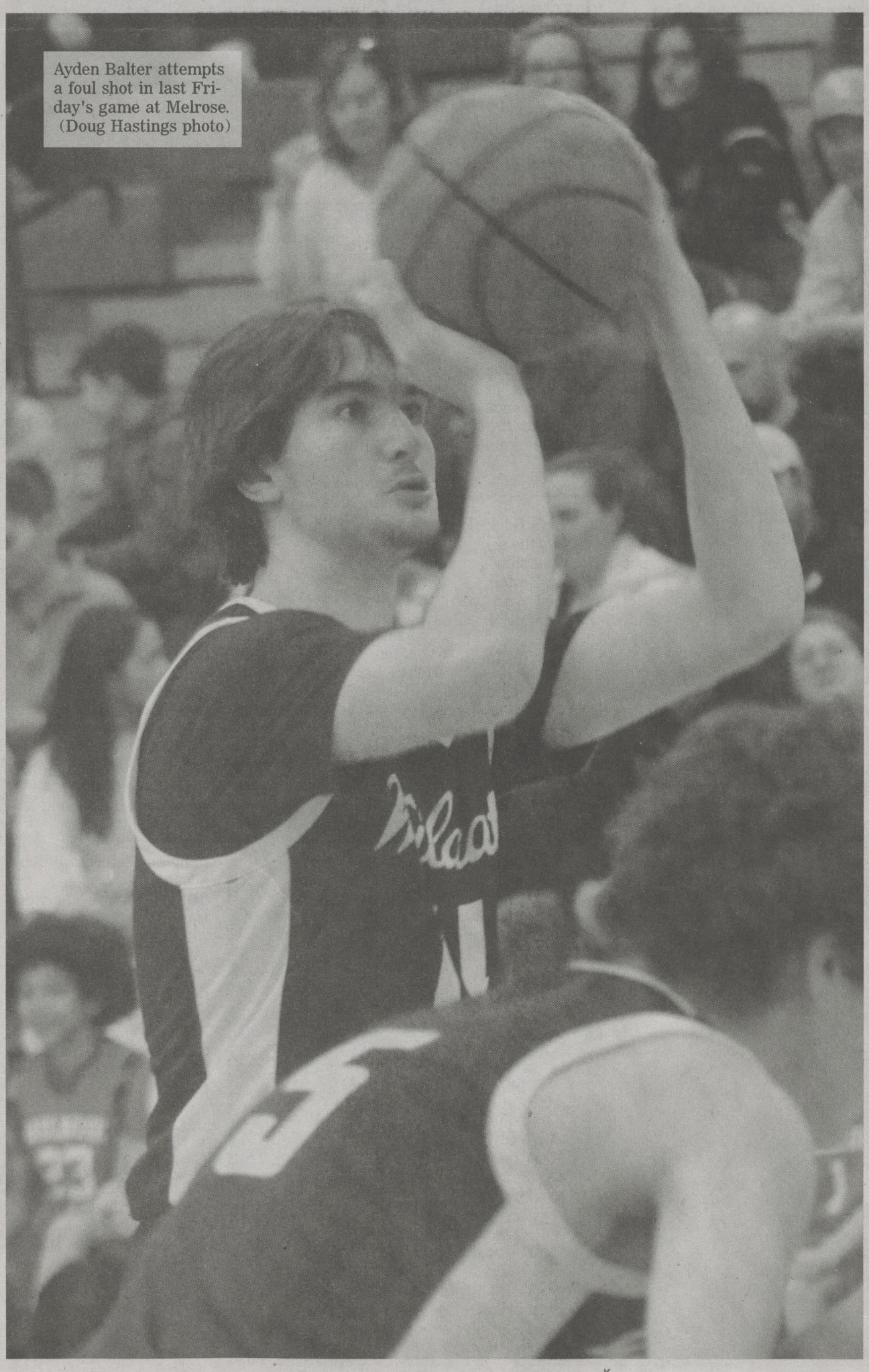
WHS led 47-44, but Melrose regained the lead after Lamas hit a jumper and senior Divine Abonghagbonse scored inside off of a nice pass from senior Owen Mujalli. The basket came only a few seconds after a shot-clock violation against Wilmington and WHS seemed to be unraveling in the closing moments.

Junior Ryan Gray had other ideas, powering inside for a layup while drawing a foul with 11 seconds remaining. Gray missed the free throw, but Balter tracked down the offensive rebound and earned another trip to the stripe with Wilmington leading 49-48 and just seven seconds on the clock.

▲ Ryan Gray runs the floor during Wilmington's win over Melrose. (Doug Hastings photo)



▲ Junior Roman Synnott looks for an opening against Melrose. (Doug Hastings photo)



Ayden Balter attempts a foul shot in last Friday's game at Melrose. (Doug Hastings photo)

Balter was just 1 for 9 from the foul line as he stepped up, but swished the first one to push the lead to two, 50-48.

Melrose took a timeout with two seconds left, but Lamas' jump shot bounced off the back of the rim as time expired and the Wildcats were suddenly 4-4 with plenty of confidence going forward.

Wilmington's first half was a memorable one.

The team hit nine 3-pointers in the opening 16 minutes from five different players.

Junior Roman Synnott took a nice pass from Gray and hit a three to start the game. Synnott would hit another one, Gray hit two and Poyant added one as the Wildcats led 17-7 after one quarter.

Defensively, along with Poyant, Wilmington limited the Hawks to only seven points thanks to hustle plays by Balter, Gray and Sullivan.

Up 17-11 early in the second quarter, Wilmington erupted again, using a 16-3 surge to push the advantage to 19, 33-14.

The long ball was working again for the 'Cats as Poyant, Balter, Gray and Sullivan hit 3-pointers in the run while Gray also added beautiful assists on baskets by Balter and Synnott.

Melrose scored six straight points in the final minute of the half to make it 33-20 at the break.

Balter's inside bucket to start the second half made it 35-20 before Melrose embarked on a methodical comeback. The Hawks outscored Wilmington 15-5 in the third quarter, allowing only one field goal and three foul shots while trimming the lead to just three, 38-35.

Sullivan's foul shot gave Wilmington a 39-35 lead to start the fourth quarter, but Melrose scored the next five points for its first lead since 5-3.

Arens hit a 3-pointer for the Hawks and senior Jacob Canlas followed with a driving layup.

Only five players for Wilmington scored, led by Gray, who had 14, and Balter, who scored 11.

Poyant (9), Synnott (8) and Sullivan (8) also got into the scorebook for the 'Cats.

Prior to Melrose, WHS played Lexington and Somerville, losing by a 70-62 score against Lexington while defeating Somerville, 53-41.

After a 1-3 start, the Wildcats are 3-1 in their last four games.

Wilmington returned to the court on Tuesday at home against Woburn before visiting Burlington on Friday at 7 p.m.

▲ Will Poyant looks to make a pass. (Doug Hastings photo)

▲ Wilmington's Maddie Plurad performs on the balance beam during Thursday's gymnastics competition against Reading. (Credit Image: James Thomas)

Wilmington High Roundup:

Gymnastics team beats Woburn, improves to 2-1

By DOUG HASTINGS
Sports Correspondent
sports@yourtowncrier.com

After falling to Reading to open the season, the Wilmington High/Bedford gymnastics team has logged back-to-back wins against Stoneham and Woburn.

On Monday, the Wildcats edged the Tanners, 128.75 to 127.

On the vault, Lexie Masters led Wilmington/Bedford with an 8.4 and Emma Callahan finished with an 8.2.

Masters led Wilmington-Bedford on bars with a score of 9.45 and Maddie Plurad finished with a 7.9.

Plurad and Masters led Wilmington-Bedford on the balance beam with respective scores of 9.25 and 8.55.

Plurad was also the top scorer on the floor exercise with a 9.0.

TRACK TEAMS FALL TO MELROSE

The Wilmington High girls and boys track teams competed against Melrose on Tuesday at Boston University.

The Wildcat girls fell to Melrose by a score of 60.5 to 39.5 to drop their record to 3-1.

Winners for Wilmington included Lexi LeBlanc in the 55-meter hurdles in 7.59 seconds, Isabel Carriere in the 300-meter dash in 44.38 seconds, Abby Engvaldson after clearing 4 feet, 8 inches in the high jump and the 4x200 relay team of Kayleigh Walker, Carriere, Avery King and LeBlanc, who won in 1:52.12.

Scoring second-place points for the Wildcats was Engvaldson in the hurdles in 10.4, Cate MacDonald in the dash in 8.00 seconds, Charlotte Kiley in the 1000-meter run in 3:18.92, Le Blanc in the long jump with a distance of 15 feet, 1.25 inches and Abby Howie in the shot put with a throw of 29 feet, 10 inches.

Chipping in with third-place performances was Kaylin Mulik in the hurdles, MacDonald in the 300, Cayley Israelson in the two mile, Giselle Olatilu in the high jump and Maddie Krueger in the shot put.

The boys lost to Melrose 67-33 to drop their record to 2-2.

◀ Wilmington's Gabriel Borges throws the shot put during Thursday's track meet in Boston. Borges placed eigth overall with a distance of 38'9".

(Credit Image: James Thomas)

WHS HAD FIVE FIRST-PLACE PERFORMANCES.

Dean Ciampa won the mile in 4:49.71 and Ashvin Baker was first in the 300-meter dash in 37.06 seconds.

Gabriel Borges captured the shot put with a distance of 39 feet, 11 inches and Martin Philiossaint was the winner of the long jump with a distance of 19 feet, 6.75 inches.

The Wildcats won the 4x400 relay in 3:43.36 with a foursome of Cam Jenks, Ciampa, Cooper Holleran and Baker.

Philiossaint adding second-place points in the dash in 6.87 seconds and Gavin Dong was the runner-up in the two mile in 10:35.64.

Chipping in with third-place finishes for WHS was Dylan Grace in the hurdles and Jake Cronin in the two mile.

BIG GAME THURSDAY FOR BOYS HOCKEY

The Wilmington High boys hockey team returns to the ice on Thursday night with a home game against Melrose at 7:15 p.m. at the Breakaway Ice Arena in Tewksbury.

The Wildcats enter the game with a 3-6 overall record.

After opening the season with losses to Middlesex League Liberty Division opponents Winchester, Arlington and Lexington, WHS has gone 3-3 in its last three games.

The 'Cats beat Shawsheen Tech and Winnacunnet High School before falling to Billerica of the Merrimack Valley Conference/Dual County League. Wilmington bounced back with a 5-1 win over Wakefield before tight defeats at the hands of Stoneham (4-1) and Watertown (3-1).

After Thursday's Middlesex League Freedom Division clash with the Red Hawks, Wilmington plays Burlington on Saturday in Burlington at 2:15 p.m.

GIRLS HOCKEY SPLITS TWO

The Wilmington/Stoneham High girls hockey team split two recent games, moving its record to 2-5-2 overall.

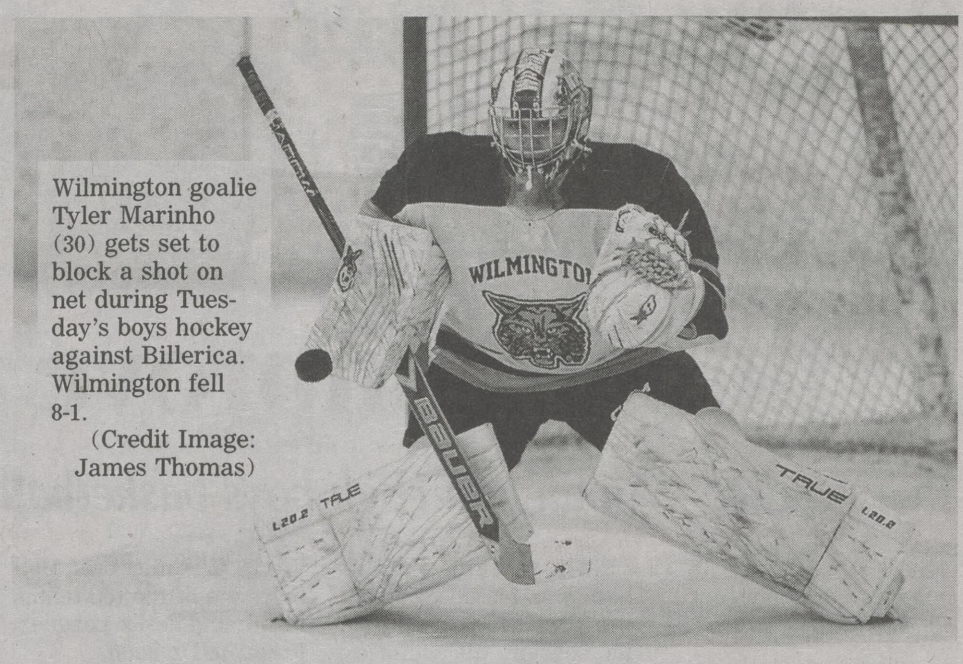
On Jan. 11, the girls skated past Wakefield, 3-1.

Scoring for Wilmington/Stoneham was Emma Ebert, Vivien Savoie and Michaela Henaghan.

Two days earlier, Wilmington/Stoneham fell by a 7-3 score.

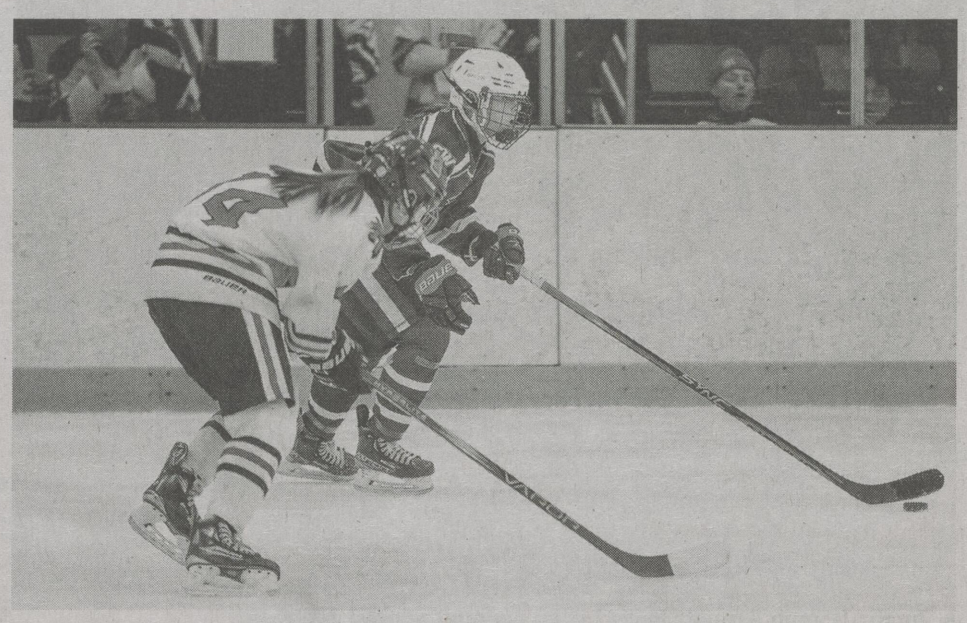
Olivia Raposa, Patricia Hamp and Jillian Lawler were the scorers for Wilmington/Stoneham.

The girls return to action this week with a Wednesday road game against Bishop Fenwick before a Saturday trip to Melrose's Flynn Rink for a 12 p.m. faceoff.



Wilmington goalie Tyler Marinho (30) gets set to block a shot on net during Tuesday's boys hockey against Billerica. Wilmington fell 8-1.

(Credit Image: James Thomas)



▲ Wilmington's Brady Cabral (2) moves the puck against Billerica's John Taft (20) during Tuesday's boys hockey game. Wilmington fell 8-1 in non league action against Billerica.

(Credit Image: James Thomas)

▲ Stoneham's Dani Chillemi (19) moves the puck ahead of Reading's Danielle Bowers (14) during Saturday's hockey game at Burbank Arena.

(Credit Image: James Thomas)

◀ Wilmington's Kayleigh Walker (center) gets a step on Burlington's Julia Gordon (left) and Maddison Goodwin in the 55m dash during Thursday's track meet in Boston. Walker placed fourth in her heat with a time of 8.11.

(Credit Image: James Thomas)

Alle Delgenio (14) drives with the ball against Melrose. (Doug Hastings photo)

▲ Summer Sands make a move against the Red Hawks.
(Doug Hastings photo)

◀ Eva Boudreau helped the Wildcats win in Melrose on Friday.
(Doug Hastings photo)

Wildcats end skid, beat Melrose

Late 18-point run by WHS girls basketball buries Red Hawks

By DOUG HASTINGS
Sports Correspondent
sports@yourtowncrier.com

Remember the Incredible Hulk?

He was the guy that was just a normal, everyday citizen until something got him mad.

Then, he would turn into the Hulk and beat up the bad guys, probably throwing a car and bending some big piece of steel along the way.

On Friday night in Melrose, the Wilmington High girls basketball team had a Hulk-like moment.

The Wildcats were significant favorites heading into their game against the Red Hawks, but a 3-pointer by Melrose freshman Zoe Breay put the Hawks in front, 33-32, with 6:21 to go.

Cue the Hulk music.

That would be the final points of the night for Melrose as Wilmington went on an 18-0 run to close out the game and earn a 50-33 win.

Plagued by slow starts in recent action, Wilmington didn't fall behind against Melrose, but the 'Cats didn't exactly pull away either, until the end.

After Breay's 3-pointer, WHS junior Summer Sands answered with a 3-pointer of her own. The shot was made possible by junior Erin McCarthy's play to track down an offensive rebound.

After a nice defensive play by senior Alle Delgenio, senior Eva Boudreau drained a 3-pointer.

On Wilmington's next trip down the floor, Boudreau broke Melrose's press all by herself and sent the ball to Delgenio, who set up McCarthy for Wilmington's third consecutive 3-pointer and a 41-33 lead.

Senior Jill Collins then contributed one of the best defensive plays of the night, sprinting the length of the floor to block a Melrose shot from behind. The next Hawk possession ended when a trap by Delgenio and McCarthy forced a traveling violation.

Sands swished back-to-back jumpers for Wilmington, making It 45-33 with 2:42 remaining and Delgenio added a layup after a textbook boxout on the defensive end. The final seconds, Delgenio added a foul shot and Sands swished two to create the final score.

Sands finished with a game-high 15 points for WHS while Boudreau added 12 and Delgenio chipped in with nine.

Wilmington opened the game with a 9-0 surge. Delgenio had two baskets in the game-opening run, McCarthy contributed a 3-pointer and Collins knocked down two foul shots after another nice pass by Delgenio.

A scrappy Melrose team fought back, cutting the lead to 11-9 after one quarter.

The teams combined for only 13 points in the second quarter, eight of them by Wilmington, who led 19-14 at halftime.

Melrose started the second half with a 9-2 run for a 23-21 advantage.

The Wildcats had only two free throws in the second half before Sands hit a driving layup and junior Ali McElligott finished a pass from Delgenio to put WHS back in front, 25-23. Boudreau put back the rebound of her own shot for a four-point lead and the 'Cats led after three quarters, 27-25.

The Hawks took the lead in the opening moments of the fourth quarter on a 3-pointer by Ella Beshel (10 points) and then regained the advantage when Breay's shot from the behind the arc went in.

That's the one that woke up the Hulk.

Sophia DiCalogero led Melrose with 11 points.

Prior to Melrose, Wilmington (3-5) played in Lexington and lost a close game, 52-48.

Lexington led 10-2 after the first quarter and 25-15 at halftime before WHS made a run.

Wilmington cut the deficit to four after three quarters, 38-34, but couldn't complete the comeback down the stretch.

Boudreau scored 17 of her team-high 20 points in the second half and Delgenio finished with 14 points, nine in the second half.

Collins and McCarthy each added five points.

It was the fourth straight loss for the 'Cats and the third in a row by less than 10 points.

After visiting Liberty Division-leading Woburn on Tuesday, WHS plays in Burlington on Friday.

◀ Senior Jill Collins (5) shoots a foul shot last Friday.
(Doug Hastings photo)

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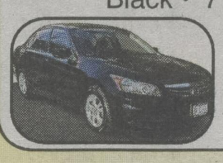

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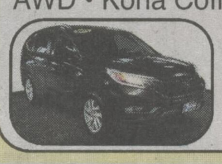

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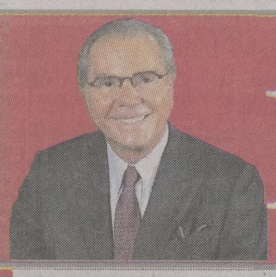

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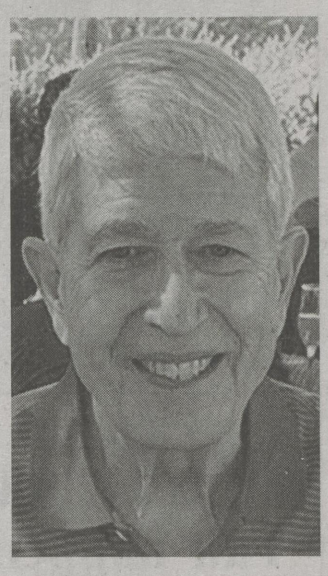
OBITUARY

Russell Leigh Adams

Retired civil engineer



Russell Leigh Adams, age 75, a resident of Tewksbury for over 40 years, passed away at Tufts Medical Center on Wednesday, Jan. 8, 2025.

He was the beloved husband of the late Mary Louise (Best) Adams.

Russell was born on April 15, 1949 in New Castle, Pennsylvania. He was the second son of the late Stanley Paul Adams and Velma L. (Shelar) Adams of New Wilmington, Pennsylvania. He was raised in New Wilmington and had a childhood playing in streams, woods and fields with other kids from the neighborhood.

He and his brother were involved in the local 4-H as well as the Boy Scouts where he became an Eagle Scout. Always competitive, he gravitated to sports and played football, basketball, baseball, and track at Wilmington Area High School from where he graduated in 1967.

He also played the baritone horn in the band and sang in the chorus.

Russell followed his older brother Bill to Dartmouth College in Hanover, New Hampshire. He earned his BA in 1971 and followed with a year at the Thayer School of Engineering, where he earned his Bachelor of Engineering in 1972.

He was a three year starter at defensive halfback in football. He played on Ivy League title winning teams in 1969 and 1970. The 1970 team was one of the best in Dartmouth and Ivy League history. They went a perfect 9-0, won the Lambert Trophy signifying them as the best college football team in the East, and finished the season ranked #14 in both major polls.

It was the last time an Ivy League team was ranked in the final AP Poll.

Russell was also a three year letter winner in baseball. He played 1st base and center field for the 1970 team that won the Eastern Intercollegiate Baseball League championship and advanced to the College World Series. Not surprisingly, his time at Dartmouth played a central role in his life and he often regaled friends and family with tales from those years.

Following graduation, Russell pursued a career as a civil engineer, focusing on water and wastewater infrastructure. He worked on the design or program construction management of major projects for both the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD) and the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA), including the Skokie (IL) North Side Sewage Treatment Plant and the Deer Island (MA) Wastewater Treatment Plant.

In 2006, he worked as a contractor with FEMA and commuted between Massachusetts and New Orleans to aid with the recovery following Hurricane Katrina.

Throughout his career he was active in multiple professional societies and particularly so in the New England Water Environment Association (NEWEA), for which he served as president in 1995.

Russell met the love of his life, Mary Louise Best, on a blind date to watch a younger cousin play Little League baseball in 1971 in Mercer, PA. They were married on July 14, 1973 in Emlenton, PA with the reception at the nearby Foxburg Country Club.

That year, they moved to the Chicago area and settled in Schaumburg, IL. They had their first son, Matthew, in 1978, and second son, Jonathan, in 1983. During this time, Russell attended night school at the UChicago Booth School of Business and earned an MBA in 1980.

In 1984, the family moved to Tewksbury. Both Russell and Mary Lou became active members and proud supporters of the Tewksbury Congregational Church. He loved singing in the choir and served as a Deacon as well as the chair or member on the Finance, Building, and Stewardship committees.

He was a devoted and nurturing father who took an active interest in his sons' education and athletic endeavors, often coaching their town league teams.

An apartment adjacent to a golf course in Hoffman Estates, IL led to a lifelong passion for the sport. He played as often as he could, especially in his later years.

Russell always enjoyed conversation with anyone he met, a congeniality that grew out of his Western Pennsylvania roots. Russell loved his family, maintained lifelong connections with friends, and had an incredible ability to always look on the brighter side of life.

He is survived by two sons, Matthew R. Adams and his wife Sarah of Chicago, IL, and Jonathan R. Adams and his wife Sharon Bielik of Stoneham; three grandchildren, Owen, Eliana, and Daniel; one brother, William P. Adams, M.D. and his wife Carol of Fountain Hills, AZ; and one sister-in-law, Nadine Karl of Franklin, PA.

Russell was a beloved uncle to his niece and two nephews and is much beloved by several cousins.

A wake for Russell will be held at the Farmer and Dee Funeral Home, 16 Lee Street in Tewksbury on Saturday, Jan. 18 from 12-3 p.m. to be followed by a memorial service at 3:30 p.m. at Tewksbury Congregational Church, 10 East St., Tewksbury.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to a memorial fund in Russell and Mary Lou's name by either mailing a check to Tewksbury Congregational Church, Memorial Gifts, 10 East Street, Tewksbury, MA 01876 or by going online to *http://tewksburycc.org/*, clicking on "Donate to TCC" button, and completing the "Memorial Gifts" section.

Healey-Driscoll Administration grants $246,000 to cities and towns for water quality protection

BOSTON — Building on its commitment to protect and improve water quality across the Commonwealth, the Healey-Driscoll Administration announced awards of $246,000 in grants to four regional watershed coalitions and planning collaboratives in Massachusetts. The funding will spur innovation and information-sharing to assist local cities and towns in reducing pollution in stormwater that harms water quality.

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) selected and awarded projects from the Massachusetts Statewide Municipal Stormwater Coalition, the Charles River Watershed Municipal Stormwater Collaborative, the Town of Brookline, the City of Waltham and Northern Middlesex Council of Governments.

"Stormwater pollution affects the water we drink, the rivers we cherish and the health of our communities. We are tackling this challenge collaboratively, leveraging expertise to reduce pollution and protect vital natural resources," said Mass DEP Commissioner Bonnie Heiple. "This funding empowers local solutions to protect public health, preserve clean water, and reduce flood risk. It's a proactive step toward cleaner water and greater resilience against climate-driven flooding."

The programs funded by these grants will assist municipalities in meeting the requirements of the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit. The MS4 Permit, issued by the EPA under the Clean Water Act National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), aims to reduce harmful pollutants from being washed into waters of the Commonwealth by storm drains.

Municipalities are required to develop stormwater management programs that include public education and outreach, public participation, illicit discharge detection and elimination, management of construction site runoff, management of post construction site runoff, and good housekeeping measures to reduce pollution.

The groups receiving funding are:

Charles River Watershed Municipal Stormwater Collaborative
$57,900
Stormwater Control Measure Inspection & Maintenance Toolkit Phase II

This project will build on the Fiscal Year 2024 SCM inspection and maintenance (I&M) Storymap by adding graphics for up to four SCM types, highlighting key areas for inspection and providing guidance on communicating maintenance needs. Additionally, videos will be produced to demonstrate best practices for maintaining up to two SCMs. These 5-minute videos will serve as training tools for both municipal staff and private SCM owners, covering equipment needs and recommended maintenance frequencies.

Massachusetts Statewide Municipal Stormwater Coalition
$48,000
Think Blue Massachusetts Phase VI

Develop and produce a new video that focuses on actionable steps and solutions to common stormwater pollution issues. Develop a social media toolkit, expand available resources and educational materials on the Think Blue MA website by creating a resource library; and update the Think Blue MA website which is publicly accessible.

Town of Brookline and City of Waltham
$70,000
Catch Basin Cleaning Alternative Phosphorus Credit Study

This study will develop recommendations for an alternative catch basin cleaning phosphorus credit for communities in Massachusetts with Phosphorus Control Plan requirements. The study will evaluate the Chesapeake Bay TMDL credit as a potential alternative. This credit is based on mass-removal of catch basin sediments. The study will also measure the phosphorus concentration of sediments in four communities in the Charles River watershed. The study will be overseen a Technical Advisory Committee that includes EPA, UNH, CRWA and multiple communities broadening its overall impact.

Northern Middlesex Council of Governments
$70,500
Northern Middlesex Comprehensive Watershed Study: Phase 1 — Stormwater Asset Inventory and Collaborative Mapping

This project will create a comprehensive GIS-based inventory of stormwater assets. The focused approach will enhance collaboration, streamline MS4 compliance, and improve water quality and lesson can be more broadly applied throughout Massachusetts. By integrating stakeholder insights and standardized data, it will identify and address key infrastructure vulnerabilities, setting the stage for informed and effective environmental management strategies.

For more information, please visit MassDEP's Stormwater Permitting page online.

MassDEP's mission is to protect and enhance the Commonwealth's natural resources — air, water and land — to provide for the health, safety and welfare of all people, and to ensure a clean and safe environment for future generations.

In carrying out this mission, MassDEP commits to address and advance environmental justice and equity for all people of the Commonwealth; to provide meaningful, inclusive opportunities for people to participate in agency decisions that affect their lives; and to ensure a diverse workforce that reflects the communities we serve.

Students named to Dean's List at Lasell University

NEWTON — The following local students were named to Lasell University's Fall 2024 Dean's List:

- **Lindsay Scalese of Wilmington**
- **Emma Toomey of Wilmington**
- **Jeremy Perez of Tewksbury**
- **Rebecca Ramos of Tewksbury**
- **Jack Salvaggio of Tewksbury**

To be named to the Dean's List, Lasell students must complete at least 12 credits as a full-time student and acheive a semester GPA of 3.5 or higher.

State officials urge fire safety during open burning season

STOW — After an unprecedented fall fire season in Massachusetts and as wildfires rage in California, state officials are urging residents to protect themselves and their communities by following local and state restrictions on open burning.

State Fire Marshal Jon M. Davine, Department of Environmental Protection Commissioner Bonnie Heiple, and Chief Fire Warden David Celino of the Department of Conservation & Recreation said restrictions on open burning are imposed at the state and local levels.

"Open burning season begins January 15 in communities where it's allowed," said State Fire Marshal Davine. "Even where burning is authorized, a permit from your local fire department is always required in advance and it's your responsibility to be able to extinguish the fire on a moment's notice. For two years in a row, Massachusetts residents have lost their lives when they couldn't contain their fires — please make safety your priority when burning."

"Open burning is limited to protect public health and public safety," said Mass DEP Commissioner Heiple. "The governing laws and regulations are in place to reduce air pollution, property damage, and personal injury. If open burning is allowed in your community, please follow the local and state guidance to keep yourself, your neighbors, and our environment safe."

"This fall, residents across Massachusetts saw just how quickly outdoor fires can grow out of control," said Chief Fire Warden Celino. "Right now, California is facing an even worse crisis with devastating fires consuming entire neighborhoods. Please don't risk a fire that puts you, your home, or your community at risk. Burn only approved materials and always get a permit from your local fire department first."

These restrictions are authorized by 310 CMR 7.07, which sets baseline requirements based on air quality and allows for "no burn" days; MGL chapter 48, section 13, which prohibits any open air fire unless a permit is issued; and the Massachusetts Comprehensive Fire Safety Code, which gives local fire chiefs the authority to impose additional limits.

Open burning is prohibited year-round in the cities and towns of Arlington, Belmont, Boston, Brookline, Cambridge, Chelsea, Chicopee, Everett, Fall River, Holyoke, Lawrence, Lowell, Malden, Medford, New Bedford, Newton, Somerville, Springfield, Waltham, Watertown, West Springfield, and Worcester.

In the remaining communities, open burning season runs from Jan. 15 through May 1 with the following limitations. Local fire departments may deny a permit or set additional limitations if circumstances make open burning hazardous.

Only certain agricultural waste may be burned. This includes brush, cane, driftwood, residential forestry debris, fruit tree and bush prunings, raspberry stalks, infected bee hives, trees and brush from agricultural land clearing, and fungus-infected elm wood if no other acceptable means of disposal is available.

It is unlawful to burn leaves, grass, hay, stumps, tires, household trash, construction materials, demolition debris, or brush, trees, cane, or driftwood from commercial or industrial land clearing.

Open burning may only be conducted:

- With a permit issued in advance by the local fire department;
- Between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.
- At least 75 feet from all dwellings and without causing a nuisance;
- As close as possible to the source of material being burned; and
- When it will not cause or contribute to a condition of air pollution.

Persons who burn unlawfully or allow a fire to grow out of control could be held liable for firefighting costs or face fines or even jail time.

Open Burning Safety

An adult should tend to the fire at all times and keep tools to extinguish it close by.

Burn small amounts at a time.

Never use gasoline, kerosene, or other accelerants to start the fire.

Don't wait for the fire department to tell you that it has become unsafe to burn: put the fire out if winds pick up or the weather changes. Most fires get out of control during sudden wind changes.

If the fire gets out of control, call the local fire department right away.

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- Landscaping and Snow Removal Included
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20 MIDDLESEX AVENUE
VISIT NORTHEASTERNDEVELOPMENT.COM/RENTALS FOR MORE INFORMATION

LEGAL NOTICE LEGAL NOTICE

Tewksbury Public Schools Announcement

for parents of students attending Tewksbury Public Schools: Career, Vocational, and Technical School Application Process (For schools other than Shawsheen Valley Technical High School)

Chapter 74 Non-Resident Tuition

Students interested in out-of-district placements under Chapter 74 Vocational Education for an upcoming school year must submit their application to **Tewksbury Public Schools, Brenda Theriault-Regan, Superintendent,** for the specific school they wish to attend by **April 1st** of the preceding school year. Tewksbury Public Schools reserves the right to reject any application received after that date.

An Equal Opportunity Employer

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF WILMINGTON
SELECT BOARD

PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that a Public Hearing will be held in Room 9 at the Town Hall, 121 Glen Road, Wilmington, MA at **7:00 p.m.** on **Monday, January 27, 2025** by the Select Board on the application of Michael's Place, Inc. dba The Real McCoy for a license to serve all alcohol beverages in a restaurant having a seating capacity of not less than 100 persons situated on the first floor of the building located at 110 Lowell Street, Wilmington, MA.

Gregory B. Bendel, Chair
Select Board

250014 1/16/25

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF WILMINGTON
PLANNING BOARD

The Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on **February 4, 2025 at 7:30 p.m.** in the Auditorium of the Town Hall, 121 Glen Road, Wilmington, MA to amend the Site Plan Review Rules and Regulations and Rules and Regulations Governing Special Permits.

A copy of each of the amended Rules and Regulations are on file at the Planning & Conservation Department and may be inspected during the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Any person interested, or wishing to be heard on the proposed amendments, should appear at the time and place designated.

Terence Boland, Chair
Wilmington Planning Board

250036 1/16, 23/25

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF TEWKSBURY
BOARD OF APPEALS

Notice is hereby given that the Tewksbury Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing on **January 30, 2025,** at **6:30 P.M.**, in the Tewksbury Town Hall, 1009 Main Street, Tewksbury, MA 01876, for anapplication filed by Kevin Saunders for a variance under Section 5.3.2 of the Tewksbury Zoning Bylaw, from minimum required setbacks to construct a 5' by 12' front porch as shown on plans filed with the Board.

Said property is located at **144 PLEASANT ST**, Assessor's Map 44 , Lot 144 zoned Residence 40 (R40) .

The application may be examined on the Zoning Board of Appeals webpage of the Town of Tewksbury's website at www.tewksbury-ma.gov. Should other accommodations be necessary to view the application, please call the Community Development Office at 978-640-4370. Legal Notice can also be viewed on www.masspublicnotices.org

Nancy Rego, Chair

241356 1/16, 23/25

LEGAL NOTICES ARCHIVE

All published legal notices are posted to the Massachusetts Public Notices website. To search the archive of previously published legal notices go to:

www.homenewshere.com OR
masspublicnotices.org/Search.aspx

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF WILMINGTON
PLANNING BOARD

The Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on February 4, 2025 at 8:20 p.m. in the Town Hall Auditorium, 121 Glen Road, Wilmington, MA for a Site Plan Review #25-01 and Stormwater Management Permit #25-01, for Section 6.6.7.7 Groundwater Protection District Special Permit #25-01, and Sign Special Permit #25-01, plan entitled, "Plans to Accompany Permit Documents for Warehouse Facility, 800 Salem Street, Wilmington, Massachusetts"; dated October 6, 2022, last revised January 8, 2025, prepared by Todd P. Morey, P.E., Beals Associates, Inc., 2 Park Plaza Suite 200, Boston, MA 02116 and Steven M. Horsfall, P.L.S., Kelly Engineering Group, 0 Campanelli Drive, Braintree, MA 02184. The application is for the modification of existing parking and loading areas to accommodate a tenant that provides delivery services. Said property is located at 800 Salem Street and shown on Assessor's Map R1 Parcel 24.

A copy of the plan is on file at the Planning & Conservation Department and may be inspected during the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Any person interested, or wishing to be heard on the proposed plan, should appear at the time and place designated.

Terence Boland, Chair
Wilmington Planning Board

250037 1/16, 23/25

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF TEWKSBURY
BOARD OF APPEALS

Notice is hereby given that the Tewksbury Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing on **January 30, 2025,** at **6:30 P.M.**, in the Tewksbury Town Hall, 1009 Main Street, Tewksbury, MA 01876, for an application filed by **Jonathan R Stark-Sachs** under MA General Laws, Chapter 40A, Section 8 as a Party Aggrieved by a decision made by the Building Inspector in a letter dated November 20, 2024, to construct (2) new single-family dwellings located on Harrison Rd.

Said property is located at **0 HARRISON RD**, Assessor's Map 18 , Lot 79 zoned Residence 40 (R40) .

The application may be examined on the Zoning Board of Appeals webpage of the Town of Tewksbury's website at www.tewksbury-ma.gov. Should other accommodations be necessary to view the application, please call the Community Development Office at 978-640-4370. Legal Notice can also be viewed on www.masspublicnotices.org

Nancy Rego, Chair

250029 1/16, 23/25

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF WILMINGTON
PLANNING BOARD

In accordance with provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 41, Section 81-F and 81-G, the Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on **Tuesday, February 4, 2025,** at **8:10 p.m.** in the Town Hall Auditorium, 121 Glen Road, Wilmington, MA on the 81G Roadway Improvement Plan Application #25-01 and Stormwater Management Permit #25-02, submitted by Mark Krasnyansky, 4 Presidential Drive, Wilmington, MA 01887, seeking to provide roadway improvements within Safford Street for the construction of two single-family dwellings located on Assessor's Map 17 Parcels 10, 11, and 12 as shown on plan entitled: "Roadway Improvement Plan, Safford Street, Town of Wilmington"; dated November 25, prepared by Luke J. Roy, P.E., LJR Engineering, Inc., 234 Park Street, North Reading, MA 01864.

A copy of the plan is on file at the Planning & Conservation Department and may be inspected during the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Any person interested, or wishing to be heard on the proposed plan, should appear at the time and place designated.

Terence Boland, Chair
Wilmington Planning Board

250038 1/16, 23/25

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF TEWKSBURY
BOARD OF APPEALS

Notice is hereby given that the Tewksbury Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing on **January 30, 2025,** at **6:30 P.M.**, in the Tewksbury Town Hall, 1009 Main Street, Tewksbury, MA 01876, for an application filed by **Anthony Paula** for a variance under Section 5.3.2 for front setbacks & a special permit under Section 8.1.1.C of the Tewksbury Zoning Bylaw, from minimum required setbacks the alteration of a previously noncomforming structure to construct a 14'x14' 1 story office addition with a 2nd floor deck as shown on plans filed with the Board.

Said property is located at **54 BAY STATE RD**, Assessor's Map 93 , Lot 189 zoned Residence 40 (R40) .

The application may be examined on the Zoning Board of Appeals webpage of the Town of Tewksbury's website at www.tewksbury-ma.gov. Should other accommodations be necessary to view the application, please call the Community Development Office at 978-640-4370. Legal Notice can also be viewed on www.masspublicnotices.org

Nancy Rego, Chair

250023 1/16, 23/25

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF TEWKSBURY,
MASSACHUSETTS
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Pringle Street & County Road
Water Main
Improvement Project

CONTRACT PW-21-12
SECTION 00010

INVITATION TO BID

Location of Work: Town of Tewksbury, Massachusetts. Sealed Bids for the Pringle Street Water Main Improvements Project will be received by the Tewksbury DPW, 999 Whipple Road, Tewksbury, Massachusetts until January 31, 2025, 2:00 P.M., at which time and place all bids will be publicly opened and all bids read aloud. Bids submitted after this time will not be accepted. All questions should be submitted in writing to the Engineer of Record by 2:00 P.M. on Wednesday, January 22, 2025.

In the event of inclement weather on the day of the bid opening in which the Tewksbury Department of Public Works building is closed, the bid acceptance deadline and the bid opening will be rescheduled to 1:00 PM on the next date that the Tewksbury Department of Public Works is open. Notification of any rescheduling of the bid opening date will be posted to Projectdog as an addendum.

The work involves the following major item (s): Installation of approximately 7,200 linear feet of 8" and 6" ductile iron water main, approximately 2,100 linear feet of HDPE service piping, fittings, fire hydrants, ductile iron gate valves, temporary water main bypass and other related water system work on Pringle Street, Pomfret Road, County Road, Grove Street, South Street and Salem Road. Additional work includes approximately 550 tons of temporary trench paving, 1,900 tons of permanent trench paving and all other related work as specified.

Drawings and other Contract Documents will be available after 2:00 P.M. local time on Wednesday, January 15, 2025, may be viewed and downloaded as a Portable Document Format (PDF) file free of charge at www.accentblueprints.com. Copies may be obtained for a fee by completing an order online or calling 978-362-8038 for each set. Completed orders may be picked up at the office of Accent Blueprints located at 99 Chelmsford Road, North Billerica, MA 01862 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Copies may also be shipped to prospective bidders for an additional charge to cover handling and mailing fees. All payments for printing and shipping are nonrefundable. To be added to the project plan holder's list to guarantee receipt of addenda, it is recommended interested bidders obtain the Contract Documents directly from Accent Blueprints. Interested bidders will be prompted to register an email address with Accent Blueprints to access the documents. Contract documents may also be examined, but not obtained, at the Tewksbury DPW Office during the following hours: 700 A.M. – 3:00 P.M. Monday through Friday.

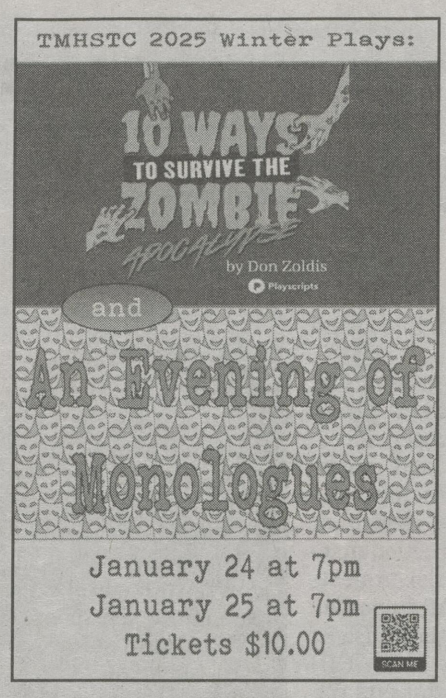
BID SECURITIES shall be in amount of 5% of the bid and in the form of a certified check drawn upon a bank within the State of Massachusetts or a bid bond executed by a surety company authorized to do business in Massachusetts, made payable to the **OWNER**.

The successful bidder must furnish a 100% **PERFORMANCE** and **PAYMENT BOND** and will be required to execute the Contract Agreement within ten (10) days following notification of the acceptance of his Bid. The **OWNER** reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to accept any bid, to waive any informality on bids received, and to omit any item or items deemed advisable for the best interests of the **OWNER.** Bids are subject to Massachusetts-M.G.L. Chapter 30-Section 39M and to Massachusetts minimum wage rates as required by M.G.L. Chapter 149- Sections 26 to 27D inclusive. The award of the contract is contingent upon the availability and appropriation of funding by the Town. All costs associated with the preparation of the bids shall be the responsibility of the bidder, regardless of whether or not the Contract is awarded.

The successful bidder shall certify that all employees at the worksite will have successfully completed a course in construction safety and health approved by the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) that is at least 10 hours in duration at the time the employee begins work and who shall furnish documentation of successful completion of said course with the first certified payroll for each employee.

John Curran, Town Manager
Tewksbury, Massachusetts

250032 1/16/25



TMHS Theater Company to perform 10 Ways to Survive the Zombie Apocalypse

Looking for something fun to do this winter? Come to the TMHS Theater Company's performance of 10 Ways to Survive the Zombie Apocalypse/An Evening of Monologues! Come and hear some of the most iconic speeches written in theater along with a comedic story on how to survive a zombie takeover! Shows are Jan. 24 and 25 at 7 p.m. Tickets are $10 and can be purchased at *cur8.com* ahead of time, or at the door. We hope to see you there!

TMHS Culture Fair happening on Thursday, January 16

Join the TMHS Culture Fair on Thursday, Jan. 16, 2025 from 6 - 7:30 p.m.. Ever wonder how Cinco de Mayo started? Interested in the origins of Bullfighting? Learn about the history, geography, and cultures of the many countries the Tewksbury Memorial High School students hail from, study, and the languages they speak.

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF TEWKSBURY
BOARD OF APPEALS

Notice is hereby given that the Tewksbury Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing on **January 30, 2025** at **6:30 P.M.** in the Tewksbury Town Hall, 1009 Main Street, Tewksbury, MA 01876 on an application filed by **Solder On c/o Rick Reid** for a variance under Section 5.3.1 E5, of the Tewksbury Zoning Bylaw for relief from the maximum allowed height of a flagpole in order to install 30' flagpole as shown on plans filed with this Board.

Said property is located at **1660 Main Street** Assessor's Map 73, Lot 40 zoned Mixed Use Business.

The application may be examined on the Zoning Board of Appeals webpage of the Town of Tewksbury's website at www.tewksbury-ma.gov. Should other accommodations be necessary to view the application, please call the Community Development Office at 978-640-4370. Legal Notice can also be viewed on www.masspublicnotices.org

Nancy Rego, Chair

241315 1/16, 23/25

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND
FAMILY COURT

Middlesex Probate
and Family Court
10-U Commerce Way
Woburn, MA 01801
(781) 865-4000

CITATION ON PETITION FOR ALLOWANCE OF ACCOUNT

Docket No. MI23P0903PM

In the matter of:
Harold J. Malloy
Date of Death: 10/23/2024

To all interested persons:

A Petition has been filed by: **Jonathan M. Spirn** of Waltham **MA** requesting allowance of the Temporary 1st and Final account(s) as conservator and any other relief as requested in the Petition.

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before **10:00 a.m. on 02/04/2025.**

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return date, action may be taken without further notice to you.

WITNESS, Hon. Terri L. Klug Cafazzo, First Justice of this Court.

Date: January 07, 2025

Tara E. DeCristofaro,
Register of Probate

250046 01/16/25

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF WILMINGTON
PLANNING BOARD

The Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on **February 4, 2025,** at **7:35 p.m.** in the Town Hall Auditorium, 121 Glen Road, Wilmington, MA for a Sign Special Permit #25-02, plan entitled, "203 Lowell Street, Building B"; dated December 23, 2024, prepared by AAA Signage Inc., Medford, MA. The application is for the installation of four wall signs. Said property is located at 203 Lowell Street and shown on Assessor's Map 48 Parcel 73.

A copy of the plan is on file at the Planning & Conservation Department and may be inspected during the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Any person interested, or wishing to be heard on the proposed plan, should appear at the time and place designated.

Terence Boland, Chair
Wilmington Planning Board

250039 1/16, 23/25

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND
FAMILY COURT

Middlesex Division

INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE

Docket No. MI24P6309EA

Estate of:
John N Melia
Date of Death:
4/25/24

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Caitlyn McCarthy** of **Nashua NH,** Petitioner **Coleen McLaughlin** of **Chelmsford MA** a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Caitlyn McCarthy of **Nashua NH, Coleen McLaughlin** of **Chelmsford MA** has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve Without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

250043 1/16/25

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF WILMINGTON
PLANNING BOARD

The Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on **February 4, 2025**, at **8:05 p.m.** in the Town Hall Auditorium, 121 Glen Road, Wilmington, MA for a Sign Special Permit #25-03, rendering dated October 7, 2024, prepared by MetroSign, 170 Lorum Street, Tewksbury, MA 01876. The application is for the installation of one 131.89sf wall sign. Said property is located at 80 Industrial Way and shown on Assessor's Map 56 Parcel 104.

A copy of the plan is on file at the Planning & Conservation Department and may be inspected during the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Any person interested, or wishing to be heard on the proposed plan, should appear at the time and place designated.

Terence Boland, Chair
Wilmington Planning Board

250040 1/16, 23/25

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND
FAMILY COURT

Middlesex Probate
and Family Court
10-U Commerce Way
Woburn, MA 01801
(781) 865-4000

CITATION ON PETITION FOR ORDER OF COMPLETE SETTLEMENT

Docket No. MI23P0903PM

Estate of: Harold J. Malloy
Date of Death: 10/23/2024

A Petition for **Order of Complete Settlement** has been filed by **Jonathan M Spirn** of **Waltham MA** requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a final account, 1st & Final and other such relief as may be requested in the Petition.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this court before **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 2/04/2025.**

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

WITNESS, Hon. Terri L. Klug Cafazzo, First Justice of this Court.

Date: January 07, 2025

Tara E. DeCristofaro,
Register of Probate

250047 1/16/25

Select Board hears Open Meeting Law complaint

By LIZZY HILL
News Correspondent

WILMINGTON — The Wilmington Select Board considered an open meeting law complaint and approved new and renewed licenses at their Jan. 13 meeting.

The meeting began with the conclusion of an executive session for the board provided to review and consider releasing their Feb. 10, 2020 and March 8, 2021 executive session minutes. This was further explained through a board to consider item proposing that the board review an open meeting law complaint dating Jan. 3, 2025 by Mark Nelson.

Town Manager Eric Slagle stated that the town received an open meeting law complaint form through the chair from the Office of the Attorney General. The state, therefore, required that the board respond to the state within a certain period of time and discuss the alleged complaint at a meeting.

Slagle also asked the board for authorization for town counsel to respond to the complaint.

Slagle described that the alleged violation appeared to be a records request submitted to the town clerk requesting the executive session minutes from Feb. 10, 2020 and March 8, 2021. The response of the town clerk was that the requested minutes were approved but not released, so they were therefore exempt from public record and the town did not have to supply them.

Slagle said that the complaint alleges this is a violation of open meeting law. Slagle also confirmed that the minutes were in fact not released and not subject to public record.

The board then voted in favor of town counsel KP| Law submitting a response.

The board also set aside time in executive session to discuss strategies with respect to potential litigation by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts due to the MBTA zoning legislation Massachusetts General Law Chapter 30A. The town is noncompliant with this law as of Jan. 1, 2025.

Common victualer licenses were requested by appointment for Stir Nutrition at 2 Lowell St., Starbucks at 203 Lowell St., and Rocco's Restaurant at 193 Main St.

Marissa Vasquez, for Stir Nutrition, shared that they sell energizing teas and healthy shakes to allow their customers to live a healthy lifestyle with convenience. She clarified that the business is in unit 6B in Square One Plaza.

The board members wished her congratulations and luck and then approved the license.

For Starbucks, Daniel Brennan explained that they were creating a new free-standing drive through location with 12 patio seats and 32 interior seats. They were finalizing inspections and hoping to open on Jan. 24. The proposed hours named were 5 a.m. to 9 p.m., seven days a week.

The board approved this license as well.

Alex dos Santos Evoras spoke on behalf of Rocco's Restaurant for the common victualer license and entertainment license requests. He first explained that he took over the business at Rocco's as of Dec. 19 and they were finalizing their licenses. He also mentioned their plan to start opening for brunch on Saturdays and Sundays starting Feb. 1.

He later added that the entertainment license would enable them to feature live dinner music on Saturday and Sunday nights.

The board voted to approve both licenses for Rocco's and wished the business the best.

Under board to consider items, they approved common victualer license renewals for Nick's Pizza, Roast Beef & Subs at 331 Main St.; Peter's Pizza, Roast Beef & Seafood at 2 Lowell St.; and Rizzo's Roast Beef & Pizza at 3R Church Street Units 1 and 2.

Papers being pulled for upcoming spring election

By CASEY STEVENSON
News Correspondent

WILMINGTON — With the New Year upon the world, the time has come to begin preparations for the upcoming local election.

This spring, residents will take to the polls on April 26 with the deadline to register to vote in time for said election being 10 days prior on April 16.

Those wishing to vote via mail or absentee voting must reapply each year. Both of those applications can be found online. Sample instructions and ballots can also be found on the Wilmington town website.

Additionally, voter registration can be applied for and checked online.

On the ballot will be varying numbers of seats on the following committees:

Select Board has two seats up for election, those who are chosen will serve for three years.

The School Committee has three seats available for three-year terms.

There is one seat available on the Shawsheen Regional Technical High School Committee, with the term lasting three years.

And finally, the Wilmington Housing Authority has two seats available, one being for a 5-year term and one being for a 3-year term.

Some interested candidates have already pulled nomination papers, with Steven D. Hunt pulling for the Select Board, Jesse Lee Fennelley and Stephen Gregory Turner pulling for the School Committee, and Ann Marie Hill pulling for the Wilmington Housing Authority.

As of this publication, this means that there is not yet one contested race.

Those who are interested in running in this election for any of the seats listed above should call the town clerk for more information.

As per usual Wilmington election procedure: Precincts 1 and 2 will vote at the Boutwell School, 3 and 4 will vote at Wilmington High School, and Precincts 5 and 6 will vote at Town Hall.

While the presidential election has come and gone, remaining active and up to date in local governance and its proceedings allows residents to enact the change they wish to see in their communities.

All candidates are wished the best of luck over the next couple months and those who are working to operate these election proceedings are thanked for their service to our democracy.

Morales named to Dean's List at MassBay

WELLESLEY HILLS — **Jessica Morales of Wilmington,** who studies Nursing, has been named to the MassBay Community College Dean's List, achieving this outstanding academic honor for the fall 2024 semester.

To learn more about MassBay, visit *massbay.edu*

MassBay Community College is the most affordable higher education option in MetroWest Boston, offering a robust portfolio of courses and more than 70 associate degree and certificate programs with flexible day, evening, and weekend classes in Ashland, Framingham, Wellesley Hills, and online.

MassBay students receive an unmatched educational value by earning stackable credits that transfer to bachelor's degree programs, and workforce-ready skills necessary to advance careers in high-demand fields such as health and life sciences, automotive technology, engineering, business, cybersecurity, and the humanities. Mass Bay's Associate Degree in Nursing (RN) and Practical Nursing (LPN) programs were both ranked as the #1 Nursing Program in Massachusetts in 2020, 2021, and 2023 by national nursing advocacy organizations *RegisteredNursing.org*, and *PracticalNursing.org*.

Since its founding in 1961, MassBay has been accredited by several governing bodies and remains firmly committed to its mission of meeting the needs of the diverse local communities it serves. We value the intrinsic worth of all individuals, collectively in pursuit of inclusiveness and prioritize our work towards achieving equity within our community and beyond.

Dalton, Demarco named to President's List at WNE

SPRINGFIELD — Western New England University (WNE) takes immense pride in recognizing the outstanding academic achievements of over 640 students who have been named to the President's List for the Fall 2024 semester. The following local students were named to the President's List:

- **Jonathan Dalton of Wilmington**
- **Mia Demarco of Wilmington**

Students are named to the President's List for achieving a semester grade point average of 3.80 or higher.

Western New England University (WNE) is a private, nationally ranked, comprehensive institution with a focus on preparing work-ready and world-ready graduates. Founded in 1919 in Springfield as a division of Northeastern College, WNE's 215-acre suburban campus serves more than 3,700 students, including over 2,500 full-time undergraduates.

More than 47,000 alumni have earned degrees through its 90+ undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs at Colleges of Arts and Sciences, Business, Engineering, and Pharmacy and Health Sciences, and School of Law.

Students come from 39 U.S. states and territories and 23 countries. Of 45,104 living alumni, 30% remain within the region, residing in the four Western Massachusetts counties and northern Connecticut.

WNE is classified among nationally ranked universities in US News and World Report, and among the Top 100 Undergraduate Engineering programs, and in the Doctoral/Professional Universities category in the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education.

Wilmington no longer in compliance with MBTA law

MBTA FROM PAGE 1

public transit according to the state. However, the measure is only a mandate to zone, not a mandate to build.

The attorney general has asserted that in addition to losing funding through state grant programs — often critical to town projects — towns may be held legally liable under federal and state fair housing and civil rights laws for unfairly limiting housing opportunities for families with children, individuals who receive housing subsidies, people of color, people with disabilities, or other protected groups.

In a statement on her social media channel, Campbell said, "This victory in our lawsuit against Milton is not only a win for the MBTA Communities Law, but for so many folks in our state who are struggling with the soaring costs of housing."

Residents asked to clear snow from in front of their home

WINTER FROM PAGE 1

snow event when plows are still out clearing the roads.

Although the DPW does clear sidewalks along central routes, homeowners are asked to clear sidewalks in front of their property to ensure public safety.

For more snow removal and snow emergency information, visit the town website at *www.wilmingonma.gov*.

Classifieds

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NortheasternDevelopment.com

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Call 781-775-7148.

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Wilmington Town Manager Eric Slagle speaks to assembled guests at the Sean Collier Memorial Ceremony.

▶Wilmington police place a memorial wreath at the Collier Tree at Rotary Park.

▲ Assembled guests pay their respects to the memory of Sean Collier who died during the manhunt for the Boston Marathon bombers. Collier, an MIT police officer at the time, was shot while sitting in his service vehicle. (Joe Brown photos)

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